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1515 Leatherwood Road  
White Bluff, TN.  
March 1, 2000

Dr. Jane Henney  
Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland

Dear Dr. Henney:

I have been informed recently of recurring efforts by audiologists to require by law that one with hearing problems must consult a otolaryngologist or other specialist before obtaining a suitable hearing device or aid. As one with a hearing problem of some duration I believe that is a bit of nonsense. I have found, as you probably realize, that hearing aids have only very limited ability to enable correction of one's hearing problems. What'more, they are very expensive for the most part. I have found that ordering an aid by mail saves me a great deal of money and provides very suitable products at great monetary savings. I agree that one should have his auditory problems correctly diagnosed initially by a physician, but, for the most part, the more expensive instruments offer no real benefit to the patient. Therefore, I hope that the current efforts by audiologists to influence the enactment of restrictive legislation on this matter will be ignored by legislators and by your regulatory organization.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Sincerely yours,



Benjamin J. Wilson, Ph.D.

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