



**Modesto  
Hearing Aid  
Center**

611 Scenic Drive • Suite A • Modesto, CA 95350 • (209) 577-1014 • Fax (209) 5778046

October 10, 2000

*"Practicing old  
fashioned service  
and care while  
specializing in the  
latest technology"*  
— Larry Daffron

Honorable Donna Shalala  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 615F  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala,

As a small business owner and hearing health care provider for over 12 years, I am writing to you with respect to hearing aids. As the AARP has confirmed, hearing aids are highly effective but dramatically underutilized medical devices.

I am very concerned with reports that the Food and Drug Administrations (FDA) has reportedly sent to you a proposal for revising the current regulations governing the dispensing of hearing aids in this country. This bill will dramatically increase the cost of hearing health care services and restrict access to hearing health care providers. Please stop and carefully consider the impact that this proposed rule will have on the nation's hearing impaired and on the nation's small business hearing aid specialist. In particular, please ensure that any proposed rule meets the obligations of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act.

Hearing loss is a major health care concern, especially with the senior population. Please don't let the FDA put forth their proposed rule that would impede access to needed hearing health care service to millions of Americans.

Best regards,

Larry R. Daffron, HA2629  
Board Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist

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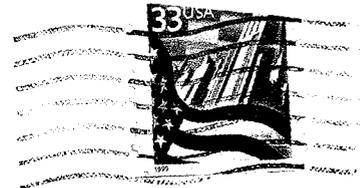


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