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Judge John Willy  
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Mr. Clymer Wright  
Honorable Jerry Yost

# THE YOUNG CONSERVATIVES OF TEXAS

P.O. Box 7075  
Austin, Texas 78713  
www.yct.org

November 28, 2003

The Honorable Tommy Thompson  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

\*\*\* RECEIVED \*\*\*  
Dec 03, 2003 12:18:16 WS# 03  
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Dear Mr. Secretary,

On behalf of the Young Conservatives of Texas, an organization that has been advocating the ideas of limited government, individual freedom, and traditional values in the Lone Star State for more than two decades, I would like to thank you for the outstanding job you continue to do as Secretary of Health and Human Services.

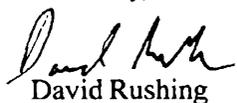
I am writing today concerning a petition filed by WellPoint Health Networks, Inc. that is currently being considered (Docket # 98P-0610) that would require the manufacturers of Allegra and Zyrtec to move these medications from prescription status to over-the-counter.

Insofar as you are involved in this matter, we urge you to oppose this petition. Consistent with our strong belief in the free market and the need to limit government interference in the economy, it is our position that every producer of legal products should be free to decide how best to market its products, including where and under what conditions to offer its products for sale.

Although current law empowers the FDA to determine whether drugs are sufficiently safe and efficacious to be sold in either the prescription or over-the-counter setting, we are unaware of any legal authority through which the FDA may require that an approved drug be sold over-the-counter rather than by prescription. We believe it is of paramount importance that all government agencies act within those powers accorded to them by statute and the Constitution.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our position on this matter and your continued distinguished public service to this nation.

Sincerely,



David Rushing  
Chairman  
Young Conservatives of Texas  
(713) 408-3606