

 Mr. Charles R. Previte
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April 25, 1999

Food and Drug Admin.
Rockville, MD.

RE: DOCKET # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the production,
processing and handling of food"

Dear Sir:

I as a consumer, along with millions of other health-conscious citizens, violently object to your deceptive attempt to blur and wipe out the distinction between irradiated food and non-irradiated food. If a food has been irradiated I have a right to know that fact. And the radura symbol must appear on the label.

In addition, such terms as "cold pasteurization and electronic pasteurization" are misleading and should not be used. The absence of a statement is misleading because irradiation destroys vitamins and causes changes in sensory and spoilage qualities that are not obvious or expected by the consumer.

The wording of the current radiation disclosure statement should be revised so that the consumer may know the difference between foods which are irradiated and those that are not. Some people may prefer to eat irradiated food, so they have a right to know if the food is or is not irradiated.

Yours truly,

Charles R. Previte
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98N-1038

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