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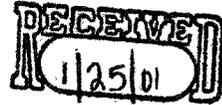
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January 17, 2001



JBS

Felecia Stachell
Office of Nutritional Products Labeling & Dietary Supplements
HFS 820
F.D.A.
200 "C" Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20204

Dear Felecia:

I am writing to request your consideration in amending the recent ruling requiring a safe handling statement on cartons of shell eggs. As a major grocery retailer, my company sells millions of dozens of eggs every year. While we support the effort to communicate safe egg handling instructions to consumers, we find the need to have flexibility in the location of this labeling.

Please consider allowing this safe handling statement to be placed not only on the top principle display panel, or on the front or back of our carton, but also on the inside of the carton. This flexibility will allow us to comply with this rule and still maintain our ability to merchandise our eggs to a maximum extent possible given the myriad legal printing requirements already in place.

As a major food retailer, I urge you to allow this flexibility in your ruling. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

ALBERTSON'S, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Terral".

Tom Terral
Regional Dairy Manager

TT:kd/tt001

Cc: Hugh McConville, Dolco Packaging
Debi Harris, Pactive Corp.