Docket #97N-0511 12-20-99

To Whom it May Concern,

1427 '00 JAN -3 AM 11:18

The FDA has issued new proposed legislation that would require mandatory pasteurization (or radiation) of all fresh juices. I find this proposal to be ridiculous. Not only do I squeeze my own fresh juice, but I patronize establishments that offer freshly squeezed juices. NEVER EVER have I been hurt or had my health damaged as a result of taking freshly squeezed juices. The FDA would do well to listen to the following points, instead of listening to politicians put up by the likes large juicemakers like Tropicana, Minute-Maid (Coca-Cola) and Dole.

The benefits of fresh juice outweigh the risks. Fresh juices contain live enzymes, which are the "life force" behind all metabolic processes. No vitamin, mineral, or hormone can do work without enzymes. Pasteurization kills all the enzymes in juice.

Fresh juice is safe. There have been billions of servings of fresh juice consumed in the United States in just the last decade. During this time period, the rate of outbreaks that occurred were directly linked to poor manufacturing practices. The two largest outbreaks which have brought about this legislation, were caused by large companies taking shortcuts in

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order to boost profits. In the past 10 years there have been over 1.7 billion oranges squeezed by conscientious manufacturers into fresh juice. Laboratories ran 17,500 microbial tests on this juice and never has one tested positive for Salmonella or E. Coli. 0157:H7

Freedom of Choice. Presently, the marketplace offers consumers a vast selection of pasteurized and fresh juices. This legislation will eliminate this choice.

Come on guys! Go to the meat industry and fight the real fight!

Sincerely,

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cc: CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS, SENATOR MAX CLELAND, SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

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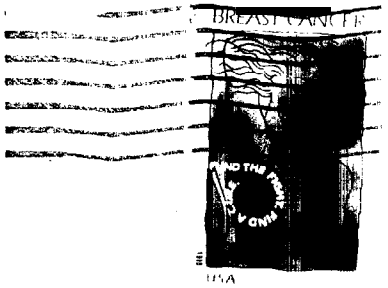

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