Food & Drug Administration
Rockville, MD. 20857 '90 OCT 11 P2:34

I am writing to oppose any attempt to change or weaken the current FDA labeling requirements for irradiated foods. It is my understanding that the USD/FDA appropriation bill (H.R. 4461) S. 2536, contains a section requiring the FDA to develop "alternative terms" for describing irradiated foods, (such as cold pasteurization, electronic pasteurization, etc.) I believe this would be deceiving to consumers since there is no better term to describe irradiation than the term "irradiation". Pasteurization is defined by the dictionary as "exposing food to elevated temperature," not ionizing

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radiation.

I urge you to remove all labeling instructions from the final appropriation bill coming out of the conference committee and let the current FDA labeling requirements for irradiated food stand as they are. Industry can comment directly to the FDA on labeling requirements by submitting its comments like the rest of us. Irradiated foods are sold internationally and need to be honestly labeled as such for international commerce.

Please let me know what action you plan to take in response to my letter. thank you.

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