April 12, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch
HFA-305
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am deeply dismayed that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration would even consider removing the labelling that would inform which food products have been irradiated. The health effects of irradiating our food supply are in question, but regardless U.S. consumers deserve the right to make informed decisions about the food they purchase.

Prominent labelling is needed in order to give consumers a choice between products that they feel might harm them or their families. Our democratic government should not be in the business of obscuring or withholding information from its citizens. I am strongly opposed to any efforts to reduce or remove labels on irradiated food.

Sincerely,

Keith William Hilstad

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