7-14-99

To Whom It May Concern,

6283 '99 JUL 22 A9:43

I am writing in regards to Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food". This is a serious issue for all Americans, because it directly effects what we eat, how we try to stay healthy, and how our rights to taking care of our bodies are in jeopardy!

I don't want to eat or drink any foods that contain any ingredients that have been treated by irradiation. But, unless food & drink for sale are properly, responsibly and completely LABELED to indicate this, how will I know what I am buying?!

I believe that all packaged food & drink should be clearly & unambiguously labeled to indicate the inclusion of each ingredient that was treated by irradiation, if this was the case. Also, the "radura" int. symbol of irradiated food should be on the label, in clear view, as well. And, for the sale of unpackaged food & drink, a clear, unambiguous and prominent sign should be displayed to indicate the above, if appropriate. These would be fair & responsible ways to let any & all people who read English to know what they are putting into their bodies. In addition, I would not be opposed to additional signage in

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Spanish as well.

We all have the right to know what we are doing to our bodies when we eat & drink. Our lives are too short and too precious to be taken any less seriously. Please do what you can to ensure that labeling requirements on our life-sustaining food & drink are strengthened, and not weakened. We all will be directly affected, including you! Do what's right.

Sincerely,

Russell M. Pirkot

RUSSELL M. PIRKOT
357 EAST HILL ROAD
LEYDEN, MA 01337

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FDA
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

R. PIRKOT
357 E. HILL RD.
LEYDEN, MA 01337

SPRINGFIELD MA 011
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JANE E. HENNEY, M.D., COMMISSIONER
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
5600 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 14-71
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