2400 S Cliff Ave #2
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
December 2, 1999

Donna Shalala, Secretary
US Dept of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20201

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Dear Secretary Shalala,

I'm writing to express my concern about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food that is being considered by the Food and Drug Administration. I strongly believe that it is my right to know if the food I eat has been treated with radiation.

Food products undergo chemical changes after exposure to radioactive isotopes. These cosmetic and nutritional changes in foods warrant disclosure on a prominent place on the package. In addition, food that is not packaged should be accompanied by a poster in plain view of where it is displayed for sale. Labels are required by law to be truthful and not misleading to the customer. Only clear, honest and permanent labeling is acceptable for irradiated foods.

Please defend the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process.

Sincerely,
Randi Hughes

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Randi Hughes
2400 S Cliff Ave. Apt. 2
Sioux Falls, SD 57105-4034

SIOUX FALLS SD
PM

Donna Shalala, Secretary
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Washington, D C 20201