Dear Secretary Shalala 12-5-99

98-05-99 DEC 23 P12:50

I am extremely concerned that the FDA may be weakening label requirements for irradiated food. This would be a shameful injustice to those of us who care about what we put into our bodies, and inspect every label prior to consumption.

My wife and I grow as much of our own food as possible and we ensure that purchased foods are certified organic. When buying packaged food, we make sure it is not heavily processed and does not contain chemicals, dyes and preservatives. To think that we could be this careful and unknowingly be buying food that has been irradiated, would be offensive, unacceptable and blatantly illegal.

A cute, little symbol on a package is not an adequate warning. I would like to see the disgusting practice of irradiation stopped altogether. If this is asking too much, at least provide appropriate labeling. This is a serious matter that consumers should be made well aware of.

I trust you will do the right thing.

98N 1038

Sincerely,
Michael

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