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December 15, 1999

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to express my concern regarding possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food. Clear, honest and permanent labeling should be required on all labels to enable consumers to decide whether they want to purchase it. Since there have not been any long-term studies on the health effects of irradiated food, I, personally, would choose not to purchase these food items. Additionally, for fruits and vegetables which might not be packaged, prominant posters indicating these items have been irradiated should be required to be displayed for the public.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Nancy Lather

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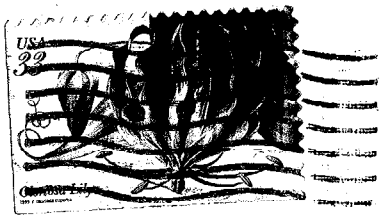

Donna Shalala, Secretary
US Dept. of Health & Human Services
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Washington, DC 20201