FARM

9528 '99 DEC 22 P2:11

December 8, 1999

OFFICERS
Alex Hershaft, PhD
President
David V. Pryor
Program Director

ADVISORS
Casey Kasem
Radio and TV Host
Elliot Katz, DVM
In Defense of Animals
Michael Klaper, MD
Author, Lecturer
John Kullberg, PhD
Humane Society of US
Frances M Lappe
'Diet for Small Planet'
Tony LaRussa, JD
St. Louis Cardinals
Marv Levy
Buffalo Bills
Howard Lyman
Humane Society of US
Jim Mason, JD
'Animal Factories'
John McDougall, MD
Author, Lecturer
Doug Moss
E Magazine
Al Oerter
Olympic Gold Medalist
Cassandra Peterson
'Elvira'
Jeremy Rifkin
'Beyond Beef'
John Robbins
'Diet for New America'
Peter Singer
'Animal Liberation'
Zoe Weil
'Animalearn'

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services, Room 1-23
12420 Parklawn Dr.
Rockville, MD 20857

To Whom It May Concern:

We write in support of William Harris' citizen petition submitted under TITLE 21 CFR 10.30 to request the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to amend Sec. 101.9 "Nutrition labeling of food." FARM is a national nonprofit organization that represents 17,000 members in the U.S.. Our mission is to promote sustainable and healthy plant-based diets.

Current FDA food labeling regulations do not require food manufacturers to reveal the percentage of calories from fat within a particular serving. Consumers are frequently led to believe that foods labeled "low fat" and "fat free" contain trivial amounts of fat when, in fact, the percentage of calories per serving from fat is quite high. As a result, those who are not inclined to do the mathematical analysis necessary to determine actual fat content of foods undoubtedly consume more fat than the federal government's recommended maximum 30% of daily calories.

At a time when 55% of the American population are overweight and cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death, the FDA should ensure that consumers receive straight information about the fat content of foods. Federal nutrient labeling regulations should not allow food manufacturers to misrepresent fat content to the detriment of millions of Americans' health. Requiring manufacturers to state the percentage of calories from fat on nutritional labels would certainly allow consumers to make more informed eating choices.

We look forward to your response to this petition.

Sincerely,

Lucy Goodrum, Esq.

Recycled Paper

94P-0036

C1098

"Saving Our Planet – One Bite at a Time"

PO Box 30654
Bethesda, MD
20824

SUBURBAN MD F&DC 208
PM
20 DEC
1999

33 USA

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Dept. of Health & Human Services,
Room ~~[illegible]~~ 1-23

12420 Parklawn Dr.
Rockville, MD 20857