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139 East Shore Lake Owassa
Newton, New Jersey 07860
28 May 2000

Mr. Joseph Levitt, Director
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
200 C Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20204

Dear Mr. Levitt:

I am writing to ask you and the FDA to ignore the opposition from the bottled-water industry and go full speed ahead with plans for new regulations that require **BETTER LABELING ON ALL WATER** sold by bottling companies for public consumption.

I find it both absurd -and frightening that I have the right to know what contaminants are contained in water for consumption and other uses from a public utility that comes out of the taps in my home, yet I have no right to the same information about the water that is bottled by a private company and sold for consumption in my local grocery store.

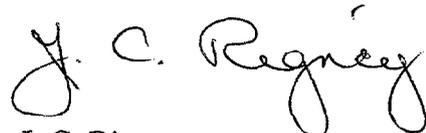
Regardless of what the laws currently say, I and every other consumer need to know what is in the water we drink, including spring water, mineral water, sparkling water, purified water, distilled water and every other variety of bottled waters.

As a citizen, voter, taxpayer, homeowner, consumer and member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, I strongly support the FDA's proposal to make commercial water bottlers list detailed reports of all contaminants in their products, just as public water utilities are required to do. In addition, all bottled-water labels should reveal the source of the water.

We should all have the right to know exactly what we are drinking. The new regulations cannot happen too soon.

Thank you for reading my letter and, I hope, taking immediate action.

Sincerely,


J. C. Rigney

CC: President Bill Clinton
Senator Frank Lautenberg
Senator Robert Torricelli
Congresswoman Marge Roukema
CSPI

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