

September 19, 2000

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**The Honorable Donna Shalala**  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 615F  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala

As a hearing care provider for over 30 years, I write to you about hearing aids. Hearing aids are very effective and under used medical instruments.

I have heard that the FDA has sent you a proposal to revise the regulations governing the dispensing of hearing aids that would dramatically increase the cost of hearing health services and restrict access to hearing health providers. Please stop and consider what effect this will have on the hearing impaired and on the nation's small business hearing aid specialists like myself. Please ensure that any rule meets the obligations of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act.

Allowing the FDA to put forth their rule will have a negative effect on the hearing impaired and on the small businesses that serve them

Sincerely,



Paul J. Dietsch, B.A. Audiology, BCHIS  
3456 Camino Alegre  
Carlsbad, Ca. 92009

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Donna Shalala  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 615F  
Washington, DC 20201

