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FDA Commissioner  
Dockets Management Branch (HFA 305)  
FDA  
5630 Fishers Lane  
Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket # - 00N-1396 & 00D-1598

Dear Commissioner:

This concerns the recently released draft rules on genetically engineered foods (GE). I am very concerned that the labeling of GE foods is voluntary. Without labeling, consumers and health professionals won't know if an allergic or toxic reaction is the result of a genetically engineered food. I want mandatory labeling. With the consumer demand, based on the letters you receive and polls, you have enough support to call for mandatory labeling. Studies on the impact to the monarch butterfly should be another reason to support such labeling.

I am concerned that no long term testing is being required. What are the impacts on the environment? Other crops? Beneficial insects? People with allergies?

As a scientist and engineer, I look at the entire genetically engineered issue as one comparable to the use of nuclear energy. We don't have long term answers, but because there is a strong lobby from some powerful entities, it is ok'd. You need to listen to the numerous scientists concerned about the safety of GE foods before you ok voluntary labeling. You need to listen to consumers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kelly Beard-Tittone

00N 1396

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