

Consuelo Reyes
33 West 93rd Street #3B
New York, NY 10025

March 11, 2001

Docket No. OON-1396 & Docket No. OOD-1598
FDA Commissioner, Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA Commissioner:

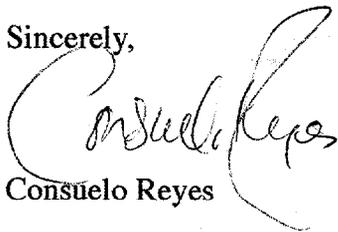
As a citizen and someone who works at a nonprofit foundation for cancer patients, I am extremely concerned about the increasing bias of the FDA toward industry at the expense of our health and right to know. This has been especially obvious in regard to FDA regulation of the food supply, most recently genetically-engineered foods.

What has happened to the FDA that was established as a federal consumer "watchdog" agency? Public confidence in FDA is at an all time low, cynicism—an all time high. But a measure of faith could be restored if you will revise your "new rules" (as announced on January 18, 2001) on GE foods to require the following:

- Mandatory pre-market safety testing, including **long-term** testing. (Many problems manifest after years of intake. Why should consumers be guinea pigs?)
- Mandatory pre-market environmental review. (NB.: studies of Monarch butterflies and Bt corn, etc.)
- Mandatory labeling of GE foods. (Anything less is an outrage. Individuals respond differently to foods; we have a right to choose as appropriately for ourselves as possible.)
- Revision of your ruling for a worthless "letter of notification" prior to marketing of GE foods. (A pitiful genuflection to industry and an insult to consumers)

As head of an important taxpayer funded institution, please rise to the occasion! I strongly urge you to respect the rights of the people and rethink the new GE rules.

Sincerely,



Consuelo Reyes

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Ms. Consuelo Reyes
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Docket No. CON-1396 & Docket No. ood-159
FDA Commissioner, Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration (HFA-305)
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