

1712 Eldridge Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55108
March 10, 2001

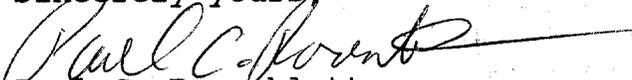
FDA Commissioner
Dock No. 00N-1396/00D-1598
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
FDA
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA Commissioner:

I am writing to urge you to drop FDA's proposed rules on genetically engineered foods. Voluntary labeling is totally unacceptable, because no food company will label genetically modified food, and because without required labels growers, intermediary companies, and food manufacturers will have no incentive to separate GM food from other food. I want to know what I and my family are eating, and I want us not to be eating GMO food. I don't want us to be guinea pigs in an enormous experimental gamble concerning which genetically modified food will first cause millions of people illness or death. And it's not as though voluntary labeling (which means no labeling at all) will help American growers and food manufacturers to get our business. Basically, it will mean we will be buying imports from countries which ban GMO food or which require labeling.

I am also very strongly opposed to the rule that there is no need for safety testing. It makes the consumer pilot subjects in a safety test which is bad science as well as evil. When millions of people more than in the past develop certain cancers, neurological disorders, prove to be infertile, etc., people will start wondering whether it's the GMO food. Finally, some university lab somewhere will carry out an experiment that shows that rats or certain kinds of cells are affected by food X. Then there will be a decade of wrangling, court challenges, bad science by food companies, and inaction by the FDA before it becomes clear that had the food been tested in the first place it would have been declared unsafe. In the meanwhile, millions of lives will have been ruined. Come on. Do your job. Protect the public.

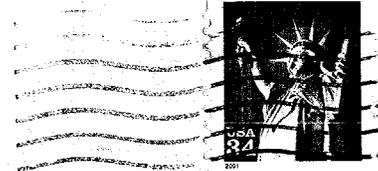
Sincerely yours,


Paul C. Rosenblatt

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Paul Rosenblatt
1712 Eldridge
St. Paul, MN 55108



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