

**Avishalom Klammer**  
**176-15th St. # 206**  
**Oakland, CA 94612-4328**  
**(510) 834-1242/israeli@citycom.com**

**April 5, 2002**

RE: Canned Foods Expiration Date-Petition

Dear Sir/Madam:

A very long time ago, I have encountered a major/grave problem and finally decided to act upon rectifying it, by means of logging onto your WebSite and finding out all the necessary & relevant information on how to submit a petition to you-such as the one I am submitting to you here.

I kindly request that the FDA consider issuing a mandatory and uniform regulation stipulating that ALL Food Product Manufacturers (whether local or overseas) should print a CLEAR, LEGIBLE & INTELLIGIBLE Product Expiration Date printed on ALL of the products which are sold in the U.S. (in the standard, well-accepted & recognized form of stating the month, the day & the year of expiration!).

If a certain food product is *imported* into the U.S.-it should be made clear to the overseas manufacturer then, that the afore-mentioned rules of printing an Expiration Date on a product is a standard required U.S. procedure (in what regards the importation of their product/s). This may or may not lead to the manufacturer's making the necessary

02P-0166

CPI

changes/adaptations, on his/her part (namely: printing an additional Expiration Date on the exported product, a date which will be clear, easily read & understood, in the U.S.!).

Currently, an infinite number of stores shelf products the Expiration Date of which is marked in an unintelligible & indecipherable manner (in a form of a code consisting of a series of numbers with or without letters, and sometimes even smudged) and if you do not believe me (or if it is necessary) check your local stores or otherwise-I will mail to you PLENTY of samples-as a proof!).

This intolerable situation has led to a point (which I have personally witnessed over the years) where a lot of stores take advantage of the lax regulations pertaining clarity & uniformity (insofar as the printed Product Expiration Date) is concerned.

More often than ever stores sell products (particularly canned foods) which have been sitting on the shelf for too long (the expiration Date of which has elapsed). One reason for my knowing this is the fact that I have already been "burnt out" by buying products, like Canned Foods which didn't taste right

or tasted bad/spoiled to a point where I had to throw them out altogether.

On other occasions, I was “burnt out” again, by buying cans which have been rusty (due to long periods of “sitting” time & corrosion to - where they ended up being sold to another store, for a cheaper price, which then, in turn, turned to sell them to their customers at what the store called a “Bargain/Saving Price”.

This situation has led to my becoming sick (not once!) until I learned my lesson as not to buy anymore any product which does not bear any clear Expiration Date on it.

But what about all the other people? Those who may fall into the same trap of buying a product which should have been REMOVED from the shelves a long time ago? Why should they have to learn it the HARD way, too, like I did ? What about a thing called: “Public Safety?” (not to mention a thing called: “Decency” when being sold a product which is not good any more just for the sake of robbing the innocent/naive buyers out of their money and making a dirty profit? And what about an incredible number of Law Suits which can be filed on these grounds?

I am appalled that nobody has ever given the matter some thought (or if they have never led to any concrete solution to this problem!).

<sup>What</sup>  
✓ The current situation means is a clear & obvious HEALTH HAZARD & Deceit to the public!!!

Based on your response to this petition, I shall decide on my future course of action. If I find it to be unsatisfactory, I shall have to resort to involving some people in the U.S. Legislative Echelon as well as certain Consumer Advocating Organizations and finally, the media!

Lastly, I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge, this petition includes all the necessary information relevant to the petition (unless I am advised by you, to submit evidence which I could & would do but please keep in mind-we are referring to a common daily nationwide practice which *you* yourselves can easily witness-if you look for it!

I am looking forward to your earliest response eagerly,

Sincerely,



Avishalom Klammer

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**This is an appeal to all involved & concerned individuals, in the general public & a kind request of support for the cause:**

**Topic: Standardizing Expiration Date Stamp on purchased Food Products (canned foods, etc...)**

**Purpose: \*) Preventing Public Health problems  
\*) Maintaining fair practice in Consumerism**

**Dear Reader:**

**Thank you for the interest in the above & having taken the time to read the following, consider it & hopefully, become involved in its support.**

**When shopping for any type of foods (particularly canned foods!) often times the Expiration Date stamped on the product is unclear (unintelligible or illegible or both). Canned foods, for example, may have the following unclear Expiration Dates: E 413 1 043; 93318 G0407 23:22; FOB19 14:49 5KB; or M36SA 9347M, etc...-all of these afore-listed codes were copied from real canned food products!).**

**If these codes above refer to an Expiration Date (?!?) then, these dates are encoded and *not* written clearly for the consumers to understand (requiring them to contact the producing company to find out what Expiration Date the printed code is referring to-which does not make sense: how can a consumer contact the producer while shopping???...). So, the risk of buying an unfresh product is very high!**

.../2

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT/continued

The impact of buying a product the Expiration Date of which is *unclear* is huge: the public is exposed to unfresh products which may have been shelved for too long, resulting in being moldy, mildewy on the inside or the can of which may even be rusty—on the outside...!

This obviously poses a great health hazard to the public (like Food Poisoning (particularly with the elderly & those with compromised immune systems)).

I, the submitter of this Petition to the FDA, certify hereby, that due to lack of standardization in posting Expiration Dates on products, ~~have ended buying unfresh products—the consumption of which made me sick (I have also purchased products which on first exterior inspection, looked o.k. but which actually happened to be rusty, upon second closer inspection!).~~

Furthermore, it is the legitimate & fair right of the *paying* consumers to receive the appropriate return for their time & money spent on purchasing a product. It is a matter of deceit to the public to make them pay for what they are led to believe, is fresh while in reality, what they receive, in return, ~~unfresh~~<sup>is</sup>

The Public (Consumers) also has the right to get clear information, namely: Expiration Dates on products should appear in either one of the following legible forms *only*: Good until ...(Month, Day, Year); Best Used Before (Month, Day, Year) or just the date (Month, Day, Year)!

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The impact of buying a product the Expiration Date of which is *unclear* is huge: the public is exposed to unfresh products which may have been shelved for too long, resulting in being moldy, mildewy on the inside or the can of which may even be rusty—on the outside...!

This obviously poses a great health hazard to the public (like Food Poisoning, particularly with the elderly & those with compromised immune systems).

I, the submitter of this Petition to the FDA, certify hereby, that due to lack of standardization in posting Expiration Dates on products, have ended buying unfresh products—the consumption of which made me sick (I have also purchased products which on first exterior inspection, looked o.k. but which actually happened to be rusty, upon second closer inspection!).

Furthermore, it is the legitimate & fair right of the *paying* consumers to receive the appropriate return for their time & money spent on purchasing a product. It is a matter of deceit to the public to make them pay for what they are led to believe, is fresh while in reality, what they receive, in return, unfresh

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**The impact of buying a product the Expiration Date of which is *unclear* is huge: the public is exposed to unfresh products which may have been shelved for too long, resulting in being moldy, mildewy on the inside or the can of which may even be rusty—on the outside...!**

**This obviously poses a great health hazard to the public (like Food Poisoning (particularly with he elderly & those with compromised immune systems)).**

**I, the submitter of this Petition to the FDA, certify hereby, that due to lack of standardization in posting Expiration Dates on products, have ended buying unfresh products—the consumption of which made me sick (I have also purchased products which on first exterior inspection, looked o.k. but which actually happened to be rusty, upon second closer inspection!).**

10/12/2020 11:14

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**The impact of buying a product the Expiration Date of which is *unclear* is huge: the public is exposed to unfresh products which may have been shelved for too long, resulting in being moldy, mildewy on the inside or the can of which may even be rusty–on the outside...!**

**This obviously poses a great health hazard to the public (like Food Poisoning particularly with he elderly & those with compromised immune systems).**

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**The impact of buying a product the Expiration Date of which is *unclear* is huge: the public is exposed to unfresh products which may have been shelved for too long, resulting in being moldy, mildewy on the inside or the can of which may even be rusty—on the outside...!**

**This obviously poses a great health hazard to the public (like Food Poisoning, particularly with the elderly & those with compromised immune systems).**

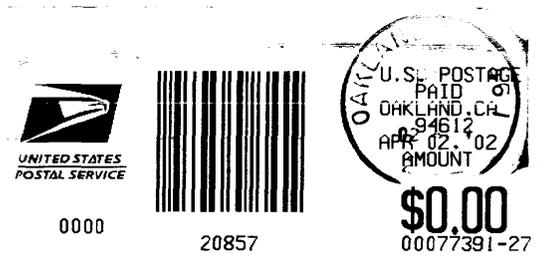
**Furthermore, it is the legitimate & fair right of the *paying* consumers to receive the appropriate return for their time & money spent on purchasing a product. It is a matter of deceit to the public to make them pay for what they are led to believe, is fresh while in reality, what they receive, in return, unfresh**

Arshalom Klammer  
176-15TH ST. #206  
Oakland, CA 94612-4328

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT  
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS. FOLD AT DOTTED LINE  
**CERTIFIED MAIL**



7001 2510 0009 4651 72  
1544 6000 0552 1000



to  
Att:

Food & Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room # 1061  
Rockville MD 20857-0003

20857+0003