

SHERWOOD BOEHLERT
24TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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June 24, 2004

Poppy Kendall
Food and Drug Administration
Office of Policy
5600 Fishers Lane
HF-11
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Poppy:

I am writing today concerning the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, Study on Making Prescription Pharmaceutical Information Accessible for Blind and Visually Impaired Individuals, Request for Comments (Docket # 2004N-0221), with regards to the Audiosears Corporation of Stamford, New York.

Audiosears works very closely with many advocates for the blind and visually impaired in my District, including the renowned Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CABVI) based in Utica, New York. CABVI has been using the Audiosears/ASKO Corporation product Aloud Audio Labeling System for over two years, and is very impressed with its performance and their relationship with the company.

As a matter of fact, Audiosears/ASKO won the 2002 American Foundation for the Blind Access Award for the Aloud system, a very prestigious honor. This award is dedicated to honoring those who eliminate or substantially reduce inequities faced by the blind and visually impaired. The work Audiosears does is extremely important and essential to ensuring opportunity and advancement for the blind and visually impaired.

During your review process for information access for the blind and visually impaired, I hope that you would consider the many avenues that can be used to best inform those with visual impairments, including those developed by Audiosears. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress

SB:djp

2004N-0221

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