



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

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February 23, 2006

Donald E. Hines
President of the Senate
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94183
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9183

Dear Mr. Hines:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), Michael Leavitt, in support of the final rule providing for the new prescription drug information labeling format that published in the *Federal Register* on January 24, 2006. Your letter and similar ones have been forwarded to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Both HHS and FDA remain confident that this new rule, which is effective June 30, 2006, will help ensure safe and optimal use of prescription drugs and biological products.

Your letter has been forwarded to FDA's Division of Dockets Management to be made a part of the official docket for this rulemaking (Dkt. No. 2000N-1269).

Thank you very much for taking the time to write on this very important public health issue.

Sincerely,

Walter D. Osborne, M.S., J.D.
Supervisory Policy Analyst
FDA Executive Secretariat

2000N-1269

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