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FDA Commissioner
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Commissioner,

I am alarmed by your irresponsible policies on genetically engineered foods. Despite overwhelming consumer demand, your agency is failing to require basic safety testing or mandatory labelling for GE foods. Labels on GE foods are required in Japan, Russia, and throughout Europe, and opinion polls state that the majority of Americans want testing and labelling.

Your new proposal denies me my right as an American Citizen to know and choose what I EAT!!!

Genetically engineered foods are NOT "substantially equivalent" to non-genetically engineered foods as the industry claims. There are many health and environmental dangers. The industry is trying to force us to unknowingly eat experimental food never before consumed the history of mankind! Your agency is failing to protect us.

Your agency's voluntary labelling guidelines (Docket No. OOD-1598) are ridiculous beyond belief, and a vicious mockery of my right as an American Citizen to know what I am eating. Are you really so stupid that you think the industry will CHOOSE to label genetically engineered food, or are you being paid off by bribes from the industry?

HELLO!!! I AM AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, AND I HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT AM EATING!!!

LABELS MUST BE REQUIRED! The penalties for failure to label properly must have real teeth. Mandatory labelling is necessary to help protect us from potential health effects that can only be traced if GE foods are identified.

The second proposed rule (Docket No. OON-1598) requiring companies to notify FDA before bringing GE foods to our supermarket shelves is equally ridiculous. You do not even require the basic testing given to food additives. Genetically engineered foods have additives -- from other species, bacteria, and pesticides, to name just a few.

When a food is genetically altered enough to produce a "natural" pesticide that protects it from pests, that same "natural" pesticide could "protect" the plant from me, and from you. In words that maybe even you can understand, that means it could KILL ME, and KILL YOU. HELLO, WARE UP.

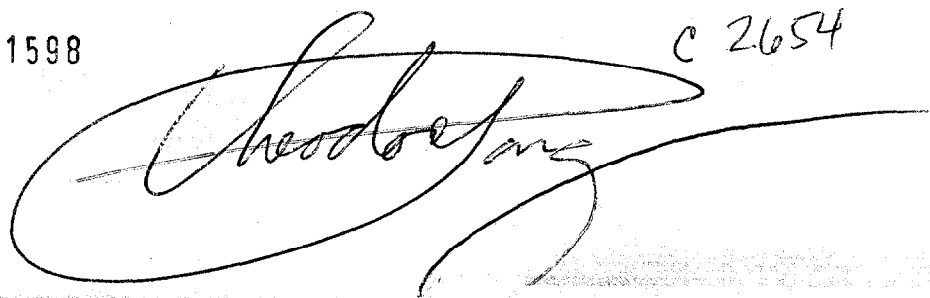
Recently both the E.U./U.S. Biotechnology Consultative Form and the Consumer Federation of America recommended mandatory labelling of genetically engineered foods. The FDA must heed this and stop working for the manufacturers of genetically engineered foods, and work for the safety and rights of the American People. Genetically engineered foods must be tested and clearly and prominently labelled.

Sincerely,

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