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

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February 26, 2001

Dear FDA Commissioner

I am writing to express my opposition to the FDA's new proposed rule and guidance on genetically engineered (GE) foods. The agency's voluntary labeling and notification proposals are totally inadequate to protect human health, the environment, and my right to know. I fully support the following:

- All GE foods and food ingredients should be labeled so I am informed and have a choice;
- GE foods should not be assumed to be safe and should be subject to mandatory pre-market safety testing; and,
- There should be a moratorium on GE foods until long-term studies show they are safe for human health and the environment.

The FDA does not allow drugs to enter the marketplace untested; why let GE foods enter the marketplace untested? In this matter, I feel the FDA is seriously delinquent in its legal responsibility to protect public health from new and untested products.

Sincerely,

Signature

Address:

Print name: STEPHEN V. BIRO

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