

DONALD DANFORTH

PLANT SCIENCE CENTER

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the FDA's current policy on labeling of foods derived from biotechnology, which requires affirmative labeling only in cases where a material change has been made that affects nutrition or health. Furthermore, I support the FDA's new guidelines for voluntary labeling of foods which have or have not been developed using biotechnology.

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As a consumer and a scientist that has participated in research in agricultural biotechnology, I have full confidence in the US regulatory agencies which approve these products and see no reason to create unnecessary, unfair rules for agricultural biotech products. I fear that mandatory labeling of products which have been deemed substantially equivalent to their conventional counterparts will give the false impression that they are inferior to non-biotech products, and that the costs of separating, testing and labeling these products will be an unnecessary burden on consumers.

Voluntary labeling is the best policy to give consumers a choice of foods without biotech ingredients and will guide manufacturers in their efforts to label them accordingly without passing on the cost to the vast majority of consumers who see no need for such regulation.

Sincerely,



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