



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

JUN 29 2001 0558 '01 JUL 10 12:19

Mr. Steve McCarthy
3017 Ivy Chase Loop
Montgomery, Alabama 36117


Dear Mr. McCarthy:

Thank you for your electronic mail message of May 13, 2001, addressed to Senator Jeff Sessions, regarding your concerns about switching allergy medications from prescription to over-the-counter status.

Currently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) has an open docket to receive comments on these prescription drugs of concern to you. We are forwarding your electronic mail message to docket number 98P-0610 where it will be considered by the Agency.

Thanks again for contacting Senator Sessions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,


Melinda K. Plaisier
Associate Commissioner
for Legislation

cc: The Honorable Jeff Sessions
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-0104

Dockets Management Branch, HFA-305
(Docket No. 98P-0610)

98P-0610

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0104

June 9, 2001

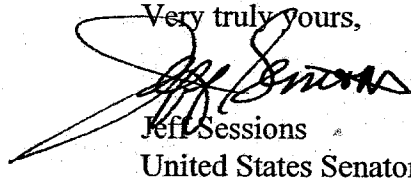
Ms. Melinda K. Plaisier
Associate Commissioner for Legislative Affairs
Food and Drug Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Parklawn Building, Room 15-55
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Ms. Plaisier:

I am writing to share with you the concerns of one of my constituents, Mr. Steve McCarthy, Alabama. He is concerned about the effort of drug companies to reclassify their drugs as over-the-counter, rather than prescription. He believes this will cause consumers to pay higher prices for drugs. I respectfully request that you submit a response directly to him, and submit a copy to my legislative assistant Anthony Leigh.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Jeff Sessions
United States Senator

JS:al

