

4.24.01

PEARL WATKINS

...W...R...I...T...I...N...G...

3143 '01 MAY -4 P2:15

Dear Acting Commissioner Schwetz:

I understand that the FDA has plans to change the wording on irradiated food labels so that the word "irradiation" does not appear. In these days of emphasis on honesty, particularly where health is concerned, this is unacceptable. We want to know what we are eating.

I urge you to act against this proposed change. An independent poll in 1999 demonstrated that an overwhelming majority of the public feels the same way as I do. AARP and the Center for Science in the Public Interest conducted a survey of 1000 adults nationally, 90% of whom favored retaining the labels currently in use.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Pearl Watkins

98N-1038

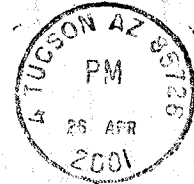
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