



CORNUCOPIA
INSTITUTE

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YES, I want to join with organic almond growers and raw almond sellers in California in fighting against new federal regulations that prevent consumers from purchasing raw and organic almonds (untreated - without the use of toxic chemicals or heat treatments).

\$30 \$50 \$100 \$250

\$500 \$1000 Other \$ _____

FARMER CONSUMER

My check is enclosed
 Charge my: VISA Master Card

Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Home Phone (optional): _____

Your financial contribution is voluntary, but we hope you will support the campaign to protect the livelihood of family and organic farms. No donation is required to have your proxy letter hand-delivered by us to Washington.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Please print carefully

Yes, please hand-deliver my signed proxy letter, below, to the office of Acting USDA Secretary Chuck Conner in Washington, D.C., so that I can join with other almond growers and consumers in protecting the reputation of organically produced almonds and authentic raw food.

PLEASE DO NOT DETACH PROXY LETTER

We will mechanically cut letter off before submitting

Dear Acting Secretary Conner,

When only 18 public comments are submitted, after draft regulations are published in the Federal Register, on an issue that is of wide public interest, you know something is wrong. You have now received many thousands of letters, phone calls, and e-mails asking you to suspend implementation of the requirement to “pasteurize” raw almonds.

1) I would like to officially add my name to the record in support of the six-month suspension of the new regulations on almonds. I also am calling upon you to reopen the rule for review and a full and open dialogue between the California Almond Board, the USDA, and all stakeholders.

2) In addition to my concern about the flawed process that has led to the pasteurization requirement, I have a number of other serious concerns about the propriety of this rule and its impact on the economic well-being of almond growers and the health of almond consumers. Issues that need to be further explored include the level of actual/comparative danger to public safety of the mandated carcinogenic fumigant, its implications for international trade, the future availability of in-shell organic almonds, and confusion that will deceive consumers into thinking that heat-treated or fumigated almond will still actually be “raw.”

I stand in solidarity with California organic almond growers and the sellers of raw almonds who stand to lose their market to foreign imports that will not be required to pasteurize almonds - this is grossly unjust! Consumers deserve the right to choose in the marketplace and to have access to California raw almonds, widely recognized as the best quality almonds in the world.

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Address _____