

Yes, please share my signed proxy letter with Costco!

To: **Walter Craig Jelinek**  
President & CEO, Costco

As stakeholders in the organic community, we built an alternative model for farming and food production in this country. Last year organic sales totaled \$61.9 billion in the US, with organic food sales representing a 12.8% increase over the previous year. The organic food market is forecasted to maintain that annual growth rate for the next five years. But you already know that.

You also know that mindful, health-conscious consumers are the driver of this growth. And as respected retailers, your company is in a position to either protect or degrade the working definition of “organic” in our food system.

**To preserve organic as a true marketplace alternative,  
we are calling upon you to make changes to your food product sourcing.**

Several of Costco’s store-brand organic products contain the harmful ingredient carrageenan. Many publicly funded, peer-reviewed studies, along with countless pieces of anecdotal evidence, indicate that carrageenan causes inflammation. Since Cornucopia has started doing its research, it is clear that more and more people are impacted by this issue.

Many high-bar organic brands have already reformulated their products to address mounting consumer concerns. I am alarmed that you continue to expose consumers to this injurious substance in your organic products. Until Costco removes carrageenan from its organic products, I will no longer be purchasing these items from your stores.

If you want to retain my business, and protect your reputation in the marketplace as a leader in retailing organic food, we ask that you commit to making these changes and implement them as soon as possible. We will be paying attention to your response. Do the right thing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Stakeholder Group (retailer, processor, consumer, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_