

Hon Lea Stevens MP

Minister for Health
Minister Assisting the
Premier in Social Inclusion

DHS003/01/0197

4 February 2004



Level 4, ING Building
45 Pirie Street
Adelaide 5000
South Australia

GPO Box 2555
Adelaide 5001
DX 273

Telephone (08) 8207 1855
Facsimile (08) 8207 1950
Email: Minister.Health@dhs.sa.gov.au

Mr Elton Humphrey
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
The Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600


Dear Mr Humphrey

I am pleased to be able to provide a submission to the Inquiry into the Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003 on behalf of the South Australian Government.

The South Australian Government supports the existing Food Standards Code *Standard 1.5.2 – Food Produced Using Gene Technology*. This Standard was approved by the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Council (now the Australia New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council) of which I am a member, and represents a practical and workable standard for the regulation of GM food labelling in South Australia.

At the time Standard 1.5.2 was approved, it was noted that the Australia New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council (ANZFRMC) should be mindful of international developments and that there would be a review by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) three years from the date the Standard was gazetted in December 2000. Consequently the existing GM labelling requirements are currently under review with the final report to be presented to the ANZFRMC in early 2004.

Yours sincerely



HON LEA STEVENS MP
Minister for Health
Minister Assisting the Premier in Social Inclusion