

## United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
SUITE 112  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0505  
(202) 224-3553  
<http://boxer.senate.gov>

March 1, 2010

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In 2003, the USDA began allowing poultry injected with sodium solutions to be labeled "100 percent All Natural." This decision went against the Department's prior interpretation of labeling guidelines that required poultry to be "minimally processed" and free of additives.

Since 2007, I have been asking for the Department to reverse this costly mistake and restore the integrity of the "100 percent All Natural" label.

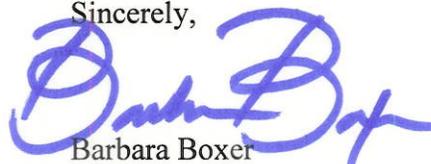
There are serious health and financial consequences at stake: American families are now paying over \$2 billion a year for the added weight of salt water. They are also consuming five to eight times more sodium than with a serving of truly natural poultry.

Enclosed is a sample of misleadingly labeled sodium injected poultry. As you can see, this packaging allows producers to misrepresent their product to consumers who then pay for saltwater that they don't know about, don't want and certainly don't need.

Consumers should have confidence that their commitment to healthy choices in their diet will be matched by the honesty of the labels they depend upon in making those choices.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator

### Enclosure

1700 MONTGOMERY STREET  
SUITE 240  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111  
(415) 403-0100

312 NORTH SPRING STREET  
SUITE 1748  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
(213) 894-5000

501 'I' STREET  
SUITE 7-600  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(416) 448-2787

2500 TULARE STREET  
SUITE 5290  
FRESNO, CA 93721  
(559) 497-5109

600 'B' STREET  
SUITE 2240  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101  
(619) 239-3884

3403 10th STREET  
SUITE 704  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501  
(951) 684-4849



BEST TO USE OR FREEZE BY  
**MAR 25 07**

706900 P-177

**100% NATURAL\***  
No Artificial Ingredients\* • Minimally Processed\*  
No Added Hormones\*\*\* • No Added Steroids\*\*\*

Fresh Chicken / Pollo Fresco  
Boneless • Skinless  
**BREASTS**  
with Rib Meat  
WITH UP TO 15% NATURAL\* CHICKEN BROTH  
**PECHUGAS**  
Deshuesadas sin piel  
con Carne de Costilla

 **American Heart Association**  
Meets American Heart Association food criteria for saturated fat and cholesterol for healthy people over age 2.  
While many factors affect heart disease, diets low in saturated fat and cholesterol may reduce the risk of this disease.

**USDA A GRADE**  
**INSPECTED**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
829

NET WT. 26.4 OZ.  
(1.65 LBS.)

KEEP REFRIGERATED  
\*\* FEDERAL REGULATIONS PROHIBIT THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL STABILIZANTS OR HORMONES IN POULTRY.

**FRESH**

**with Rib Meat**  
WITH UP TO 15% NATURAL\* CHICKEN BROTH  
**PECHUGAS**



**Nutrition Facts**

Serving Size 4 oz. (112g)  
Servings Per Container about 6

Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 120	Calories from Fat 25
	<b>% Daily Value*</b>
<b>Total Fat</b> 3g	5%
<b>Cholesterol</b> 55mg	19%
<b>Sodium</b> 330mg	14%
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 0g	0%
<b>Protein</b> 22g	

**Iron** 4%  
Not a significant source of saturated fat, trans fat, dietary fiber, sugars, vitamin A, vitamin C, and calcium.  
\*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

**Natural\* Chicken Broth Ingredients:**  
Chicken Broth, Salt, Carrageenan.  
**GLUTEN FREE**