

Docket Number # 98P-0151/CP1 Downed Animals protection

U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Dockets Management Branch,  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room # 1061,  
Rockville, MD 20852

*December 12, 2000*  
*6610 Bay Circle Dr.*  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*  
*37918*

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Dear FDA,

I'm writing to request that you help end the horrific downed animal trade. Please grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals as presented by [www.NoDowners.org](http://www.NoDowners.org) Farm Sanctuary Campaign.

Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease). It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place. Downed Animal Protection Act (H.R. 443 & S. 515)

Farm Sanctuary and other animal protection organizations are lobbying to pass the Downed Animal Protection Act in Washington, DC. This commonsense measure requires that animals who are too sick to stand (i.e. "downed animals") be humanely euthanized at stockyards.

I agree they should be HUMANELY euthanized at stockyards and remove the market for downed animals.

Please help make this the LAW!

Sincerely Yours,

*Bebbie Medley*

*C3225*

98P-0151

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