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Dr. Sharon Benz
Leader Nutrition and Labeling Team
FDA-CVM
Center for Veterinary Medicine
7500 Standish Place, HFV-228
Rockville, MD 20855

Dear Dr. Benz,

It has come to my attention that the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) in conjunction with the FDA are developing a uniform enforcement event targeting "unsafe, unapproved ingredients that are distributed in all channels of commerce, including catalogs and the Internet." What this means is that many of the supplements we use to give a good quality of life to our animals and have been using for years, may suddenly be unavailable to us and the animals whose lives depend on them.

I am a pet owner and a Director of an animal sanctuary for domestic large and small animals. I am extremely concerned about the removal from sale of supplements designed for animals. I am not aware of such a number of side effects that this drastic action should be necessary. Many of these supplements have been designed by veterinarians, and are appropriate in dose and chemistry for my dogs, cats, and horses. I believe that if these supplements are made illegal, research on supplements for companion animals will be stifled, and we want research done on these helpful but non-patentable substances. People will be left with no choice but to reach for human supplements which are not formulated for animals and left to completely guess at what course of action may be best for the pet they dearly love. Many guide dogs for the handicapped are able to keep up with the physical demands of their jobs because of the help of some of these supplements. The sudden unavailability of these supplements would cause immediate detrimental consequences both for animals and humans.

Removal of animal supplements from sale will not solve the problem; indeed, it will significantly worsen the situation. Please, let's avoid a New "Prohibition" of substances that we have used safely and successfully for many years.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Dawn E. Hayman
Vice President/Co-Founder

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