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July 9, 2002

Dr. Sharon Benz
Nutrition and Labeling Team, Center for Veterinary Medicine
Food and Drug Administration
7500 Standish Place, HFV-228
Rockville, MD 20855

Re: Ban of Animal Supplements

Dear Dr. Benz:

After being alerted to this situation, I am writing to urge you not to support a ban on the sale of animal supplements

As an American and an attorney, I am continually bothered by the over legislation in America today. Specifically, as a multiple horse, cat, and dog owner, I am extremely concerned about a proposal to ban the sale of supplements designed for animals.

I believe that if these supplements are made illegal, research on supplements for companion animals will be stifled, and we want research on these helpful but non-patentable substances. With animal supplements removed from sale, people will be left with no choice but to reach for human supplements which are not formulated for animals. They will have to guess at what course of action is best for the pet they dearly love.

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. Let's find a way to ensure quality control and/or truth in labeling without removing effective supplements made by reputable companies.

Thank you for your time and attention

Sincerely,



Amy Blackmon

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