

2477 '00 AUG 16 P2:24

5031 Onondaga Road
Syracuse, NY 13215
January 22, 2000

Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am writing to you about an issue that greatly concerns me. It is the overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock. As you know, this has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chickens, pig, cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat humans.

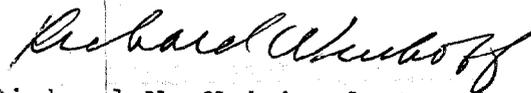
Fearing a rise in untreatable infectious diseases, the European Union (EU) has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine. In the United States, however, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken no action against drugs currently in use, although I understand that this issue is being considered.

I urge the FDA to follow the EU's lead and move immediately to ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

I would appreciate your views in this matter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

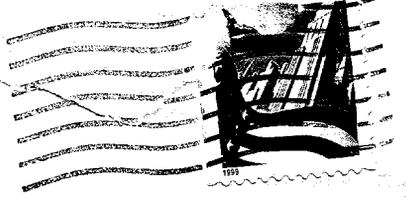
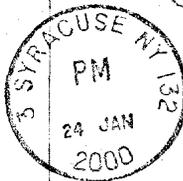


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