

Jane E. Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner, FDA

October 2, 1999

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Dear Commissioner Henney:

The livestock industry in recent years has undertaken a massive program of administering antibiotics to animals in order to promote growth. This is done routinely, on a gigantic scale, and poses a real danger to human health. One result has been that certain disease-causing bacteria, such as salmonella, are becoming ever more resistant to antibiotics, with obvious troubling implications for human health and diseases.

Recently, an independent group of scientists, health professionals, and various organizations petitioned the FDA to ban the subtherapeutic (nonmedicinal) use of antibiotics for farm animals. This is a sensible action. Please approve this petition.

Thank you for listening.

Roy C. Rineer  
19 Nolt Avenue  
Willow street, PA.  
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JUDY AND ROY RINEER  
19 Nolt Avenue, Willow Street, PA 17584

Jane E. Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner, FDA  
Parklawn Bldg. Room 14-71  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD .20857

