Sara Chenoweth
60 Summit Trace Road
Langhorne, PA 19047
Home Phone 215-504-1343

2391 '00 JAN -6 A10:53

October 03, 1999

Dr. Jane Henney
Commissioner, Food and drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 14-71
Rockville MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am writing to ask you to please consider banning the use of antibiotics to help promote growth in livestock.
New studies are suggesting that the use of antibiotics in livestock to spur growth and prevent disease can cause these drugs to become ineffective in treating disease in humans. There is a growing resistance to antibiotics in this country and this has now been linked to repeated exposure to the drugs from eating the meat of slaughtered animals who have been given large amounts of antibiotics and begin to build up a resistance. When people eat the meat they also ingest the antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Due to their overuse, these antibiotics are now failing to treat many diseases.
Other countries are way ahead of us regarding this issue. The European Union has already banned several antibiotics from being used in animal feed. In Denmark, where one growth-promoting antibiotic was banned, a study showed that the prevalence of a particular antibiotic resistant bacteria in chickens had declined by 70%.
The use of antibiotics in livestock is dangerous and unnecessary. 90% of the time they are not used to treat infection in animals but to promote an unnatural growth and allow factory farms to raise their animals under horrible conditions. Animals can be packed into small areas with limited movement and no access to the outdoors - all for the financial benefit of the factory farmer.
Please ban the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock. They are creating a major health hazard and risk to public safety.

Sincerely,

Sara Chenoweth

C1960

Sara Chenoweth
60 Summit Trace Rd
Langhorne, PA 19047

PHILADELPHIA, PA 191
PM
5
14 OCT
1999

33 USA

Dr. Jane Henney
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane Room 14-71
Rockville MD 20857