

2382 '00 JAN -6 AMO '52

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

Dear Dr. Henney:

I have great concern about the ongoing use of certain antibiotics to promote growth of livestock which are eaten by humans. The regular use of these drugs in animals is providing bacteria the opportunity to develop increased resistance to the same antibiotics which are needed for the treatment of life-threatening infections in humans.

Two years ago, the World Health Organization called for a ban on use of antibiotics to fatten livestock. Since then, the European Union has adopted such a ban. It is time for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the agency which the American public relies on to guard us from avoidable public-health dangers, to act firmly and adopt a ban on this unsafe practice in America.

The lobbying efforts of the livestock industry and drug manufacturers must not be allowed to impose harmful medical effects on Americans. We must be able to trust that the meat products we consume will not endanger everyone's health. I ask you to take appropriate regulatory action to prevent the loss of antibiotic effectiveness and the public health crisis that we are headed toward.

Sincerely,

*Geraldine A. Vokoun*

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**FIRST CLASS**

DR. JANE E. HENNEY, COMMISSIONER  
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