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10-29-99

Ms. Jane Henney, FDA Commissioner  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Ms. Henney

On the behalf of my family, I urge you to help prohibit livestock producers from using medically important antibiotics in animal feed to promote growth. In light of recent information regarding the human antibiotic *vancomycin* becoming ineffective (this medicine has been in use for over three decades), and that the new antibiotic *Synercid* is starting to become ineffective against bacteria, we will soon have a problem on our hands that we will not know how to deal with.

We must help our nation's food producers find a better, safer way to supply poultry, beef, etc., to our ever-growing population. With the years that it takes to develop new antibiotics that are effective, we must act swiftly to protect ourselves. The importance of your role in helping to make these changes cannot be understated.

Mankind has certainly made great strides in medicine in recent years, but any scientist or doctor will tell you that the inability to treat the myriad of infections can be a great threat to our nation's health. We cannot let the U.S. trade policy endanger our health! The European Union has already banned antibiotics (used by humans) from animal feed - a move that has also been supported by the CDC and WHO.

If President Clinton's administration is only interested in protecting the drug companies and the meatpackers, then who is looking out for the citizens?

Please act swiftly and surely to put a stop to this insane practice. Our health is at stake, and the possible outcome of non-treatable viruses will rival any script that Hollywood could write.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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