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13680 Winchester
Oak Park, MI 48237

November 2, 1999

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

Dear Ms. Henney:

As you no doubt are aware, some infectious disease organisms which were once thought to have been wiped out have returned stronger than ever and are now menacing human health again. Our arsenal of antibiotics is shrinking dangerously as bacteria mutate into forms that we cannot successfully combat.

One of the major reasons for these mutations is the use of antibiotics in animal feed by livestock producers. In addition, we now find antibacterial additives in many commonly used products such as hand soap, where such additives serve no real purpose other than marketing savvy. These products help to undermine the life-saving properties of antibiotics by giving bacteria another avenue for mutating into forms that make our antibiotics obsolete.

Doctors cannot fight disease when their weapons are being destroyed. I believe the FDA should ban the use of antibiotics except where such use is medically indicated for the treatment of disease.

The current profligate use of antibiotics is a foolish risk to human health. I urge you to work toward eliminating that risk.

Yours truly,



Doris Applebaum

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
FDA

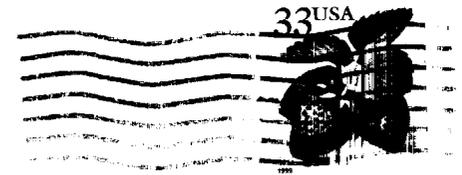
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