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December 22, 1999

Jane Henney, M.D.,
Commissioner, F. D. A.
5600 Fishers Ln., Rm 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney,

There is abundant evidence from experience in Europe that the practice of feeding growth-promoting antibiotics is unwise. Countries, like Sweden, which have banned such use have found that such a ban is economically practical as well. The practice has the very dangerous effect of creating strains of bacteria resistant to otherwise effective antibiotic drugs. The Union of Concerned Scientists has published proof of the practicality of alternative animal husbandry methods.

It seems clear that pressures from the pharmaceutical and meat industries for continued use of antibiotic growth-promoting antibiotics are misplaced and should be ignored. We count on you to act in the best interests of the nation as a whole and stand up to those pressures.

Yours truly,



Maurice W. St. Clair
1021 Sierra Dr.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

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