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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom It may Concern:

I am writing reference docket number 98P-0151/CP1, the policy which would terminate purchase of meat from downed cows for Federal programs. I would like to urge the U.S.D.A. to to grant the above-noted petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

I am quite concerned that ill or injured animals may eventually be slaughtered to provide food that could be contaminated or dangerous for consumption. As an animal lover, I am also quite concerned about the neglectful, indifferent, and cruel treatment of these animals, which could be eliminated simply by more careful care and handling.

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Doing a job correctly with attention to efficient procedure, especially when dealing with sentient beings, is not difficult or costly. In addition, food from downed animals provides quite a small percentage of animals actually slaughtered, so that no debilitating economic hardship would occur. Humane treatment of all animals, and avoidance of deriving food from ill, injured animals are only right - and make good sense.

I thank you for considering my remarks, and for granting petition which serves not only public health, but the welfare of innocent animals.

Sincerely,

Pamela B. Kemph

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