

January 24, 2001

9631 '01 FEB -5 110:15



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

RE: DOCKET NUMBER 98P-0151/CP1

Dear USDA Management Branch:

We are writing to SUPPORT the downed animals act, for the following reasons:

1. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.
2. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).
3. It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains—inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.
4. Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.
5. Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

These animals must be protected and deserve humane treatment, especially in the face of preventable diseases and general human health.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amelia Hennighausen'.

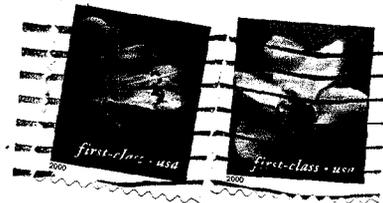
Amelia Hennighausen  
Director of Communications

98P-0151

C 3820



Ms. Amelia Hennighausen  
139 S. 4th St. Apt. 7R  
Brooklyn, NY 11211-5575



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



RE: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1