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91 Madison Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621
March 14, 2001

Jane Henney, M.D., Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fisher Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

VIA FAX

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am very concerned that the FDA is dragging its feet on banning the use of human antibiotics to make livestock grow faster here in the United States.

It is believed that the overuse of antibiotics in this manner creates conditions where bacteria can quickly develop resistance to these drugs. We humans are eating these animals and will have fewer choices when and if we need antibiotics. We have already seen the effects of overmedicating humans. Doctors have fewer choices in terms of medicines to combat bacterial infections.

Europe has already banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics that have a role in human medicine. It is better to ban it now, do the testing and research, and review the situation. The FDA needs to stop using humans as guinea pigs to do this testing!

I urge you to ban this practice now. Remember, you are eating this food, too!

Sincerely,



Leslie Lepre Rolik