May 24, 2002
Senator Gordon Smith
121 S.W. Salmon Suite 1250
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Senator Smith—

We are writing concerning the issue where many herbal & nutritional supplements that we use on our animals are in danger of becoming unavailable because they have not been categorized as either feed ingredients or drugs. Regulatory action is being started for removal on the market on many of the ingredients, even though they have been on the market for years.

We object to the effort of AAFCO in encouraging state feed regulatory officials to take these products off the market!

We have used these products & have found them to help our horses & dogs very much. Without them our animals would be in pain and unuseable in their later years. We also use some of these products & they have made us able to live with our arthritis in comfort. Under the 1994 Dietary Supplement, Health & Education Act (DSHEA), these same products are sold for human use. We want to be able to use these same products on our animals in order to make their lives comfortable, as we do for ourselves. We support the introduction of legislation to include all animals, including the horse, under the provisions of DSHEA.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Spurgeon
Robert J. Spurgeon
24174 Hog House Road
Colton, OR 97017