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1409 Deer Meadow Lane  
Boothwyn, PA 19061-1925  
October 12, 1999

FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: DOCKET No. 98N-0074

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that the President's Council on Food Safety is inviting public comment on reducing foodborne diseases in our nation's food supply.

To that end, may I suggest banning the forced molting of hens, i.e. starving hens to increase egg production. This is a very irresponsible practice that produces enormous stress on the birds, weakening their immune systems, and thereby generating outbreaks of Salmonella Enteritidis and Campylobacter.

I strongly urge you to ban the forced molting of hens. Not only is this method of food production inhumane, but it is placing the health of our nation's consumers, including children who are most at risk, in danger.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this most important issue. I trust that you will make a responsible decision in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

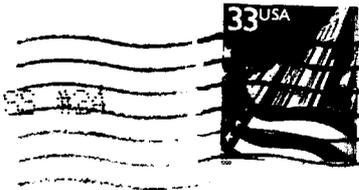
*Maryanne Appel*  
Maryanne Appel

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Maryanne Appel  
1409 Deer Meadow Lane  
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PHILA PA 191



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20857+0001

