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November 8, 1999

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Peachtree City, GA 30269

The President's Council on Food Safety  
Docket No. 97N-0074  
FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fishers Lane., Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom it May Concern:

Please help stop the spread of drug-resistant bacterial infections caused by the overprescribing of antibiotics. More than 40 percent of all antibiotics sold in the United States are administered to farm animals to promote growth and prevent disease in unnaturally overcrowded factory farms. The National Research Council estimates that if this nonmedical use of antibiotics for farm animals were prohibited, food costs would increase by only \$5 to \$10 per person annually—a small price to pay for reducing animal suffering and keeping antibiotics effective.

To deal with this crisis effectively, your legislation must address antibiotic overuse on factory farms as well as in human medicine. Also, ensuring more humane and hygienic treatment of farm animals is the most up-front way to deal with food safety hazards.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Andrea B. White

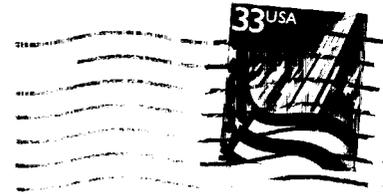
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The Humane Society of the United States



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