48 Sandburg Drive
Morganville NJ 07751
January 1, 2000

Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner, FDA
5600 Fisher Lane – Rm 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Ms. Henney:

Overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant diseases.

Many of the drugs currently used to enhance growth in chickens, pigs and cattle are the same – or closely related to – those used to treat people.

Because of a fear in the rise of untreatable infectious diseases, the European Union has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics that are used in human medicine.

However, here in the United States, the Food & Drug Administration has taken no action against drugs currently in use.

The only action the FDA has taken on this issue is to begin a series of meetings to discuss possible restrictions on new approvals of antibiotics in livestock.

I strongly urge you to follow the European Union's lead and move immediately to ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

Thank you for your quick action in this vital matter.

Very truly yours
David Gross
David Gross

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David B. Gross
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Season of Tolerance

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