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35 Ross Ave  
Spring Valley, New York 10977  
July 30, 2000

Jane Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration  
(HF-I)  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Md. 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

A public health crisis is looming because diseases long controlled by antibiotics are becoming more difficult to treat. Illnesses once easily cured often fail to respond to drugs that were previously effective against them.

Eventually, it is expected that bacteria will become resistant to antibiotics but the pace has greatly quickened due to overuse of these antibiotics by physicians, hospitals and livestock producers.

Scientists are convinced that drugs given to animals play a role in antibiotic resistance to human diseases. For decades, livestock producers have used antibiotics both to treat diseases and to promote growth in hogs, cows and chickens. In fact, about one-third of the antibiotics that are manufactured in the U.S. each year are added to animal feed to fatten animals cheaply. There are other ways to produce safe meat at reasonable prices.

The World Health Organization recommends banning the use of medically important antibiotics to promote animal growth. We think that the United States should also adopt this position. Withdrawing drugs for growth promotion would still allow their use in sick animals.

We favor sick individuals over inexpensive meat.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Rhoda Lonow*

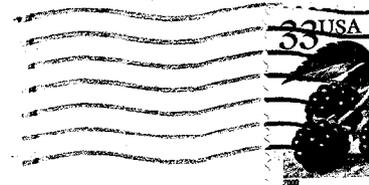
*Martin Lonow*

Rhoda Lonow  
Martin Lonow

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Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lonow  
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