

# M.W.M.

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Tuesday, October 24, 2000

US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20785

Dear Sir or Madam,

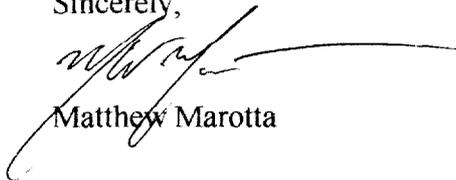
I am writing to request that you grant the petition to eliminate the slaughter of downed animals. It is my firm opinion that animals that are not able to stand or walk should not be consumed by humans. They present a great health risk because of increased infections (possibly mad cow disease) and other ailments afflicting humans.

Further, downed animals are treated with even less compassion than other factory farmed creatures. They are dragged and pulled to slaughter resulting in much injury and pain before eventual death. Eliminating this degree of animal suffering and health risk to humans will make a negligible market impact. Also, creating protection for downed animals could cause farms to treat animals more humanely. I have read that up to 90% of downed animal could be prevented. By protecting downed animals, we would encourage farms to run a better operation in order to minimize shrinkage.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. For you reference, this letter refers to the following docket number:

**98P-0151 / CP1**

Sincerely,



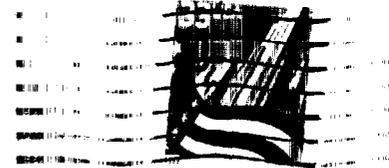
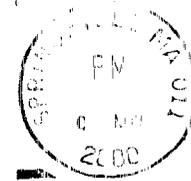
Matthew Marotta

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98P-0151

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