

Gail Phillips  
3087 Landmark Blvd, #1800  
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684  
RECEIVED  
FSIS DOCKET ROOM  
04 MAR 18 PM 1:18

477

March 18, 2004

USDA  
FSIS Docket Clerk  
Docket 03-025IF  
Room 102, Cotton Annex  
300 12th and C Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250-3700

**RE: "Downer Ban"**

Dear Sir/Madam:

I'm writing to ask that you keep your "Downer Ban" in place and, in addition, include all downed animals in the ban. Diseased and disabled pigs, sheep, and other animals should not be excluded from the "Downer Ban". I also request that the USDA require the humane euthanasia of all non-ambulatory animals immediately upon their discovery at stockyards, slaughterhouses, and other facilities.

I've read that agribusiness and their legislative allies are lobbying you to lift the "Downer Ban". It would be outrageous for the USDA to even consider lifting this long overdue ban. Please insure that it stays in place, and amend it to include all animals (to protect the food chain and stop the suffering of these animals). Pigs, sheep and other animals suffer just as much as cattle. It's hard to believe all the atrocities that our government allows to go on in this country.

The USDA has been one of many incompetent government agencies. Please do all that you can stop the inhumane marketing and slaughter of all downed animals. In addition, I ask that your agency do more to ensure the humane living conditions, transport, and humane slaughter of this country's cattle, pigs, sheep, chickens, etc.

I'm sure that my views on this subject reflect those of the majority of people in this country. Please do the right thing. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gail Phillips