

Shanna L. Visnick
P.O Box 383
Central, SC 29630

January 26, 2000

FSIS Docket Clerk
Food Safety and Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture
Room 102 Cotton Annex Building
300 12th Street SW
Washington D.C. 20250-3700

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Rec'd
2/15/00
MAY

RE: The Future of FSIS Veterinarians: Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century.

To whom it may concern:

I am a junior at Clemson University in South Carolina. I am currently pursuing a Bachelors degree in Animal Science Business and Production. Upon reviewing the December 1999 Draft Report, " The Future of FSIS Veterinarians: Public Health Professionals for the 21st Century", I found section two, " Education, Training, Recognition, and Recruitment," to be very informative and have many great ideas.

When I first started college I entered with the ambition of someday becoming a Veterinarian. My goal soon changed when I obtained a job at a local small animal hospital. After many months of working I realized that once you have obtained your DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine), that the room for advancement is not readily available.

I strongly agree with the idea of having career tracks, as mentioned in section two of the Draft Report. I feel this gives veterinary students the choice to look at other alternatives of veterinary medicine other than just owning a practice. The career tracks open a lot of doors to new innovations for the veterinary field. Students would be able to have a career with plenty of room for advancement. Having a career track would be an excellent education program.

If I had been offered the option of choosing a career track and if I was pursuing a veterinary degree, than I would have taken more time to contemplate the avenue of veterinary medicine. Continuing education is a valuable commodity for businesses. Any new skills that can be obtained can be and will be a positive reinforcement for any company.

Sincerely, 

Shanna L. Visnick