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Feb 3, 2001  
909 Elm St  
Reading, PA 19601

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sirs:

I'm writing this letter to urge the Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CPI to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

The animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the food chain. They impose an increased risk for bacterial contamination and may be afflicted with a form of BSE or "Mad Cow Disease".

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged by chains, which causes more injuries ranging from bruises, broken bones and torn ligaments. Downed animals comprise of a very small percentage of animals slaughtered and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling.

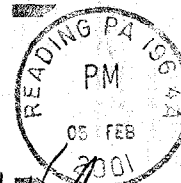
C3921

Thank you for all you've done so far, my family and friends will be watching with great interest in the outcome of this matter.

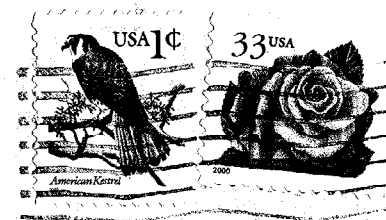
98P-0151



JoAnn Amato  
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*HVA-305*



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