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4457 '01 FEB 15 P3:06

Dear Director:

This letter was written in support of the humane Euthanizing of downers:

A. As you know, many downers are too sick or injured to even walk. They are often slow, lethargic, and are naturally in pain.

B. As such, it is not possible to humanely move or relocate these animals for slaughter.

C. Downers are often abused; they are kicked, dragged, thrown, shocked with cattle prods, etc.

D. Downers pose a safety risk to the American public and to other animals. Just imagine one sick downer with a contagious disease. Its meat that is to be used for the sale of hamburger will infect any other hamburger it comes in contact with. Many people will be affected; bacterial contamination, mad cow disease, etc.

E. It is better to remove the diseased animal before its meat gets mixed up with good meat. It will get lost in the crowd (so to speak). At an estimate 0.1% there will be no considerable loss to the farm community, nor will it raise the price of meat at a noticeable rate.

F. God has made it clear in his scriptures that animals for food must be slaughtered humanely. This also includes the quality of their life while they are beefed up for eventual slaughter.

Thank you for taking time out to read our letter.

Sincerely Yours,

**BASSAM IMAM** 

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