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February 5, 2004

Dear Secretary Veneman:

I want to thank you for banning the slaughter of downed cows for human consumption. I am urging and asking you to hold firm against weakening changes in this act and maintain the USDA interpretation of downers, that all non-ambulatory disabled animals, regardless of the reason that they are unable to stand or walk should not go to slaughter. Also, I am asking you to extend the ban to all other species of downed animals, not just cows, but also pigs, sheep, geese, chickens, ducks and other livestock and to always do the humane thing regarding these animals. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Toni Siegrist