

MB

1459 Willard Street
San Francisco 94117
December 30, 3000

4066 '01 JAN 17 10:42

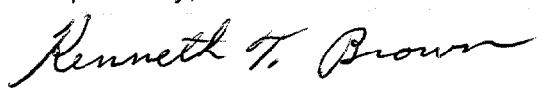
Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner, Federal Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am writing to urge you to ban the use of antibiotics for the sole purpose of helping livestock raised for human consumption to reach market weight faster than they would otherwise. In my view, and that of many scientists, this is an irresponsible use of proven lifesaving drugs. Mounting evidence indicates that many strains of bacteria are becoming unresponsive to antibiotics. With a worldwide resurgence of formerly devastating infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis and smallpox, we need to keep all the edge we can for control and management of these and similarly serious diseases. Imbibing antibiotics planted frivolously in our food may well leave us increasingly vulnerable to infectious epidemics of the future.

My career in physiological research has taught me a profound respect for the mechanisms of nature. When we cooperate with them, we can accomplish much. When we attempt to subvert them to greedy purpose, we are more than likely to be the losers. Please use your influence to ban further improper use of antibiotics in our food industry.

Respectfully,



Kenneth T. Brown, Ph.D.
Professor of Physiology, Emeritus
School of Medicine, UCSF

99P-0485

C2689

neth T. Brown
illard St
ncisco, CA 94117



Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner, Federal Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

