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House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Subcommittee on Health
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairmen Upton and Pitts, Ranking Members Waxman and Pallone:

On behalf of Zoetis, a global animal health company, I want to express our appreciation and support for the Committee's consideration of both H.R. 1407 and H.R. 1408, reauthorization of The Animal Drug User Fee Act (ADUFA) and The Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act (AGDUFA). We are committed to preserving both public health and animal health through the responsible use of animal drugs and treatments. Both ADUFA and AGDUFA help provide the framework for the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) to thoroughly evaluate the safety and efficiency of animal drugs, giving veterinarians and livestock producers the tools they need to protect animal health and the safety of animal food products.

The current ADUFA and AGDUFA authorizations are set to expire on September 30, 2013, but the House Energy and Commerce Committee has brought significant attention to these programs through hearings earlier this year and the markup scheduled for this week in the Subcommittee on Health. This upcoming markup is a critical step to ensuring timely reauthorization, and we thank Committee leadership for the timely consideration of the reauthorization of ADUFA and AGDUFA. The reauthorization of these important programs will enable the FDA to continue its timely review of animal drugs, critical to protecting the health and wellness of U.S. livestock and companion animals, through September 2018.

We commend the Committee for drafting an ADUFA and AGDUFA reauthorization that reflects the extensive public engagement and stakeholder input which has taken place over the last two years. Zoetis strongly supports H.R. 1407 and the Manager's Amendment that will include H.R. 1408 as part of this base reauthorization legislation up for consideration by the Subcommittee on Health this Wednesday, May 8. We urge broader Congressional action on a clean reauthorization bill, with no amendments that may impede or delay its passage, in order to avoid interruption of the FDA animal drug approval process.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy R. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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