

May 6, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton
U.S. House of Representatives
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
U.S. House of Representatives
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Pitts
U.S. House of Representatives
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy and Commerce
420 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy and Commerce
237 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of America's 67,000 pork producers, we are writing in support of timely action on the reauthorization of the Animal Drug User Fee Act (ADUFA). Pork producers are continually working to safeguard the health of their animals, and the products approved through the ADUFA process assist them in managing animal health. We strongly urge your support of this critical legislation, and we ask that you support a timely and clean reauthorization of ADUFA.

ADUFA authorizes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to collect fees from animal drug manufacturers to enable the Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) to meet performance standards by expediting the drug approval process. ADUFA has been critical in streamlining the regulatory process to get much-needed products to market, and available to livestock producers, on a more timely basis.

The ADUFA process is the perfect example of government and industry working together to serve the needs of the industry and its customers while also fulfilling the necessary role of government oversight and review that allows for proper protection of public health. In turn, both parties benefit, as well as livestock producers who continue to use technology and innovative products to safeguard the health of their animals. This process also provides incentives for animal drug companies to continue researching and developing innovative products, which contributes greatly to the American economy. It is important to point out that pork producers use a number of methods to safeguard animal health. We have long understood the connection between animal health and a safe food supply, and the industry has adopted a myriad of biosecurity measures along with targeted use of animal health products, such as antibiotics, to safeguard animal health.

NPPC believes that a timely reauthorization of ADUFA is critical, and we ask you to support a reauthorization that is not bogged down with amendments limiting antibiotic use on farms,

requiring onerous reporting on antibiotics uses or preventing access to important classes of antibiotics. NPPC is sensitive to concerns about use of antibiotics in livestock and public health, but we ask that efforts to address those concerns now underway at FDA through Guidance 209, Guidance 213 and the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on “Antimicrobial Animal Drug Distribution Reporting” be allowed to be fully implemented and their successes gauged to assess their effectiveness before further measures are taken.

We thank you for your support as Congress considers passing the Animal Drug User Fee Act of 2013, and we look forward to working with you and your staff on this important issue.

Sincerely,

National Pork Producers Council

Arkansas Pork Producers Association

Arizona Pork Council

California Pork Producers Association

Colorado Pork Producers Council

Delaware Pork Producers Association

Georgia Pork Producers Association

Hawaii Pork Industry Association

Idaho Pork Producers Association

Illinois Pork Producers Association

Indiana Pork

Iowa Pork Producers Association

Kansas Pork Association

Kentucky Pork Producers Association

Louisiana Pork Producers Association

Michigan Pork Producers Association

Minnesota Pork Producers Association

Missouri Pork Producers Association

Mississippi Pork Producers Association

Montana Pork Producers Council

North Carolina Pork Council, Inc.

North Dakota Pork Producers Council

Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Inc.

New Hampshire Pork Producers Council

New York Pork Producers Cooperative

Ohio Pork Producers Council

Oklahoma Pork Council

Oregon Pork Producers Association

South Carolina Pork Board

South Dakota Pork Producers Council

Tennessee Pork Producers Association

Texas Pork Producers Association

Utah Pork Producers Association

Virginia Pork Industry Association

Wisconsin Pork Producers Association

CC: Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee