

April 26, 1993

TO: SENATOR DOLE
FROM: BRET FOX
SUBJECT: CHRISTINE STEVENS' INQUIRY

CHRISTINE STEVENS HAS CONTACTED ME WITH REGARD TO YOUR IMPROVED STANDARDS FOR LABORATORY ANIMALS AMENDMENT TO THE 1985 FARM BILL.

IN LATE FEBRUARY A JUDGE RULED THAT THE REGULATIONS THAT USDA HAD PROMULGATED TO ENFORCE THIS LEGISLATION WERE "ARBITRARY" WITH REGARD TO PROVIDING EXERCISE FOR LABORATORY DOGS AND OFFERING GREATER LIVING SPACE FOR PRIMATES. THE RULING STATED THAT THE REGULATIONS VIOLATED THE INTENT OF THE LAW, AND ORDERED USDA TO PROCEED WITH THE PROMULGATION OF NEW REGULATIONS.

MRS. STEVENS HAS ASKED IF YOU WILL CONTACT USDA AND URGE THEM NOT TO APPEAL THIS DECISION. ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND THE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH COMMUNITY WOULD CLEARLY LIKE TO SEE THE CASE APPEALED.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE, I WILL CONTACT OFFICIALS AT THE USDA ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE TO ASCERTAIN WHAT ACTION THE DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE. WHETHER THEY APPEAL OR NOT, IF THE HISTORY OF THIS EIGHT-YEAR REGULATORY MESS IS ANY GAUGE, IT WILL STILL LIKELY BE SOME TIME BEFORE ANY REGULATIONS ARE ACTUALLY ADOPTED.

OPTION:

~~I'll~~ INQUIRE WITH APHIS

YES _____ NO _____

PREPARE A LETTER

YES _____ NO _____