

From: Rae Randleman <raeran@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2009 3:35 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

With all due respect, I am writing because I am concerned about the subsidies given to the agribusinesses which leads to a lack of competition in agricultural markets and only unhealthy food choices for most Americans.

The Agribusiness practices of managing livestock is unhealthy for the environment (tremendous concentrations of urine in our soil and water), for the animals (consolidated livestock eating corn and living in their own feces and urine), and for people (increasing incidents of ecoli and antibiotics to offset the effects of cattle eating corn instead of grass and living in unhealthy conditions).

Please investigate the issues (Pollan's book The Omnivore's Dilemma is an excellent starting point), and enact legislation (e.g. more small companies licensed to slaughter livestock, incentives to small organic farmers) to improve the health of the environment, animals, and people. This would also help reduce our medical spending.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Rae Randleman

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