

RESOLUTION NO. 80-14

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND,
CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF A BAN ON NONTHERAPEUTIC USES OF
ANTIBIOTICS**

WHEREAS, eighty percent of the antibiotics sold in the United States are used in livestock production, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported that most of those antibiotics are used irresponsibly; and

WHEREAS, low doses of antibiotics are routinely fed to livestock for growth promotion and disease prevention to compensate for crowded, unsanitary conditions, in a practice known as “nontherapeutic use”; and

WHEREAS, “nontherapeutic use” creates ideal conditions for the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistant bacteria on livestock operations are known to spread to retail meat, farmers and farmworkers, and rural environments; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance in pathogens due to nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production has been a public health concern since the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistant bacteria have been the cause of several foodborne illness outbreaks, including a 2011 outbreak of antibiotic resistant *Salmonella* in ground turkey that sickened 136 people, hospitalized 37, and killed one; lead to the third largest meat recall in the USDA’s records *and* lead to a 2013 outbreak of antibiotic resistant *Salmonella* in chicken that sickened 416 people and hospitalized 162; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that at least two million Americans suffer from antibiotic resistant bacterial infections each year and twenty-three thousand Americans die from those infections; and

WHEREAS, the medical and social costs of antibiotic-resistance infections in just one hospital for one year have been estimated to be between \$13 million and \$18 million; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has limited nontherapeutic uses of two classes of antibiotics, but otherwise largely relied on voluntary guidance to attempt to reduce overuse of antibiotics in livestock production, despite regular acknowledgements that nontherapeutic use and the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria poses a significant public health threat.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the 16th day of September 2014, the City of Richmond supports a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Richmond supports the Protection of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA)/Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act (PARA); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City of Richmond will send a letter to our State Representatives, Congressional Representative and U.S. Senators calling for a ban on the nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock agriculture (and for them to co-sponsor the PAMTA/PARA).

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof, held on September 16, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor McLaughlin.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Boozé.

ABSTENTION: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 80-14**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 16, 2014.