

**Animal Health Institute
Capitol Hill Antibiotics Briefing
July 20, 2010**

Welcome Remarks by Ron Phillips, Vice President, Legislative and Public Affairs, AHI

We are the trade association representing the companies that make medicines for animals. Our products include pharmaceuticals that are reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration, biological and vaccine products that are reviewed by the US Department of Agriculture and flea and tick products that are reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The issue of antibiotic resistance and the use of antibiotics to keep food producing animals healthy have been the subject of a great deal of attention this year. That discussion has included numerous staff briefing such as this one today as well as the recently completed set of hearings by the Energy and Commerce Committee's health subcommittee.

The purpose of today's briefing is to fill out that picture and fill out that discussion with the perspective of companies that make antibiotic products used to keep food animals healthy. We plan to share information today about the regulatory process at the Food and Drug Administration including how FDA works to assure that approved products will not contribute to the human burden of antibiotic resistance, how our companies make decisions in the research and development process and consider the potential effects of antibiotic resistance and their post approval assessments and post approval assessments that are used to measure how well these protective measures are working, that antibiotics can be used for important – for the important public health benefit of keeping food animals healthy while not adding to the antibiotic resistance burden in humans.

To do that we have three experts with us today whom I'll introduce in a moment, following their presentations and we'll hear all three of their presentations and then have a time at the end for discussion and for questions.