CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 31514

A RESOLUTION concerning the nontherapeutic use of antibiotic medicine in livestock production; supporting a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production and urging the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate to pass the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act, respectively.

WHEREAS, eighty percent of the antibiotics sold in the United States are used in livestock production, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 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 and lead to the third largest meat recall in the USDA's records and a 2013 outbreak of antibiotic resistant Salmonella in chicken that sickened 416 people and hospitalized 162;

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 BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:

Section 1. The Seattle City Council supports a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production; and

Section 2. The Seattle City Council strongly urges the passage of House Bill 1150, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA) in the United States House of Representatives, and of Senate Bill 1256, the Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act (PARA) in the United States Senate.

Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2014, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this_____ day of _____, 2014.

_____

President _____of the City Council

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2014.

_____

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

Form revised: February 26, 2014

FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Josh Fogt	233-3811

Legislation Title: A RESOLUTION concerning the nontherapeutic use of antibiotic medicine in livestock production; supporting a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production and urging the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate to pass the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act, respectively.

Summary of the Legislation: The Resolution states City Council's position supporting a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production and urging the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate to pass the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act, respectively.

Background:
(Include a brief description of the purpose and context of legislation and include record of previous legislation and funding history, if applicable.)
Antibiotics are critical tools in human medicine. Medical authorities are warning that these life-saving drugs are losing their effectiveness, and there are few replacement drugs in the pipeline. Bacteria evolve in response to the use of antibiotics both in humans and in animals. Those bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics prosper as antibiotics kill the non-resistant bacteria. Once they emerge, antibiotic-resistant (AR) bacteria can transfer AR traits to other bacteria in animals and the environment. The development of antibiotic resistance is hastened by the use of low doses of antibiotics at industrial farms. The drugs are used routinely not to treat sick animals, but for growth promotion and disease prevention, a practice known as non-therapeutic use. This resolution calls on Congress to end the practice of non-therapeutic antibiotic use in livestock production as a means for preventing the spread of AR bacteria.

Please check one of the following:

__X__ **This legislation does not have any financial implications.**
(Please skip to "Other Implications" section at the end of the document and answer questions a-h. Earlier sections that are left blank should be deleted. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each question.)