

United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and Inspection Service

1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250

Caitlin Zittkowski Counsel, PETA Foundation 2154 W. Sunset Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90026

June 29, 2022

Dear Ms. Zittkowski:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) on June 27, 2022. The petition requests that FSIS initiate rulemaking to no longer allow for FSIS review and approval of animal raising claims on FSIS-regulated products and to rescind the guidelines for the approval of such labels. Specifically, the petition requests that FSIS amend 9 CFR 412.1(e) to remove "animal raising claims" from the description of "special statements of claims" that require Agency review and approval and prohibit the use of such claims.

Your request is being considered as a petition for rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(e)), USDA's administrative regulations (7 CFR 1.28), and FSIS' regulations on petitions (9 CFR part 392). Your petition has been referred to the Office of Policy and Program Development for review and has been assigned petition number 22-04. As provided in 9 CFR 392.6, your petition will be made available to the public in the FSIS docket room and will be posted on the FSIS Website at:

https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/petitions

You may contact Mary Porretta, Petitions Manager, Regulations Development Staff at mary.porretta@usda.gov if you have any questions regarding the status of your petition.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hammar Acting Director

Regulations Development Staff