

## United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
SUITE 112  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0505  
(202) 224-3553  
<http://boxer.senate.gov/contact>

July 26, 2012

The Honorable Margaret H. Hamburg, M.D.  
Commissioner  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
10903 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20993

Dear Commissioner Hamburg:

I have recently been approached by constituents in my state regarding pet treats that have caused illness and death in their family pets. They have reported that certain chicken jerky treats made in China have caused symptoms such as decreased appetite and activity, vomiting, renal failure, and in some cases, death.

I know that FDA first began receiving similar complaints in 2007, and has been conducting ongoing tests to try and determine the cause of these illnesses. Although so far there has been no source determined, there is an obvious problem with these chicken jerky treats manufactured in China. I'm greatly concerned about the safety of these products, and while FDA has done well by urging consumers to use caution, I don't believe it is enough.

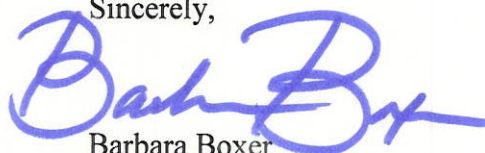
Specifically, I fear that FDA's warnings have not reached consumers, who through no fault of their own end up purchasing these tainted treats.

I urge you to continue dedicating the necessary resources to find the source of the contamination, take greater steps to alert customers of the dangers posed by them, and pull from the market any products that are found to cause harm.

Please let me know what efforts are being made to ensure consumers are being alerted to the danger these treats pose, and how we can work together to ensure your agency has the necessary resources and support to find the cause.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and prompt response.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator