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May 1, 2026

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

We write as members of the United States House of Representatives, deeply concerned with the looming threat of New World Screwworm. We are grateful for the extensive work of your agency to help minimize the threat an infestation would have on U.S. agriculture and food supply. We remain concerned that the medications the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved are only approved for cattle. This leaves other vulnerable warm-blooded animals like sheep and goats at risk of infestation. Leaving these animals untreated will provide additional nesting for screwworms, perpetuating an infestation and potentially disrupting several state's abilities to export livestock or animal products.

Thanks to the work of the FDA, there are a variety of medications to prevent and treat screwworm in cattle. This will be instrumental for farmers and ranchers to combat the flies nesting and breeding in the wounds of cattle. Unfortunately, cattle are not the only mammals that we need to protect in the event of an outbreak. The American Southwest is also home to millions of sheep and goats, that without the proper treatment, could become nesting sites for millions of flies, increasing the likelihood of an infestation. That is why we write today to ask that the Department of Health and Human Services develop and roll out injectable, preventative and reactive treatments for sheep and goats as quickly as possible.

It has been proven that treatments of injectable doramectin and ivermectin are effective in combatting topical screwworm. The FDA has rolled out doramectin and ivermectin rulings that will be extremely successful to keep screwworm off cattle. In order to halt an infestation, we need that treatment spread to all farm and ranch animals, especially goats and sheep<sup>1</sup>. This will be vital to maintain the enormous farming and ranching industry in the United States Southwest in the event of further northern spread of screwworm.

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<sup>1</sup> SHELBY SHANK, OTC IVERMECTIN APPROVED FOR EMERGENCY USE AGAINST SCREWWORM, TEXAS FARM BUREAU (Feb. 12, 2026).  
<https://texasfarmbureau.org/otc-ivermectin-approved-for-emergency-use-against-screwworm/>

As the Secretary of Health and Human Services, you have made tremendous strides for American food security and the food industry. We are appreciative of your hard work and devotion to these matters, especially in the face of a disastrous infestation with the potential to increase food insecurity and wreck an entire industry. We urge you to continue your work in securing a healthy food supply for Americans everywhere and protect the farming and ranching industry in the United States Southwest.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. We look forward to your leadership on this issue.

In God we trust,



Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



Brian Babin  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



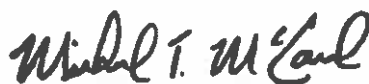
Michael Cloud  
Member of Congress



Jake Ellzey  
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Ryan Zinke  
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Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress



John Carter  
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