



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**September 1, 2015**

**Motion 14420**

**Proposed No. 2015-0222.1**

**Sponsors Phillips**

1           A MOTION in support of a statewide and national ban on  
2           nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production.

3           WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 23,000  
4           people die from antibiotic-resistant infections each year, and

5           WHEREAS, antibiotics have been used for the last seventy years to treat people  
6           with infections, are effective against bacteria and are among the most-commonly  
7           prescribed drugs used in human medicine, and

8           WHEREAS, antibiotics have been used so widely and for so long that the  
9           infectious organisms that the antibiotics are designed to kill have adapted to a growing  
10          number of them, making the drugs ineffective or less effective, and

11          WHEREAS, as antibiotic resistance increases, physicians have fewer effective  
12          drugs to treat patients, and

13          WHEREAS, scientists have provided strong evidence that antibiotic use in food  
14          animals can lead to drug-resistant infections in humans, and

15          WHEREAS, any overuse or misuse of antibiotics, whether in human medicine or  
16          in agriculture, contributes to the spread of antibiotic resistance, and

17          WHEREAS, eighty percent of the antibiotics sold in the United States are used in  
18          livestock production. When animals are given antibiotics for growth promotion, to  
19          increase feed efficiency or to routinely prevent disease in unhealthy conditions, this

20 nontherapeutic low-level exposure to antibiotics may be particularly conducive to the  
21 survival and growth of drug resistant bacteria, and

22 WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is currently working with  
23 drug makers to implement a voluntary policy to eliminate approved growth-promoting  
24 uses in food animals of those antibiotics that are used in human medicine and to improve  
25 veterinary oversight of all in-feed and water uses of those drugs, and

26 WHEREAS, antibiotics should be used appropriately based on the best available  
27 evidence and taking into account public health and the need to prevent emergence of  
28 resistance, and

29 WHEREAS, at the local level, the city of Seattle in 2014 passed a resolution  
30 supporting a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock  
31 production, and

32 WHEREAS, at the national level, the Chipotle Mexican Grill restaurant chain  
33 serves antibiotic-free meat, and major buyers of chicken such as McDonald's and Costco  
34 have recently announced commitments to phasing out purchase of chicken raised with  
35 antibiotics that are important to human medicine;

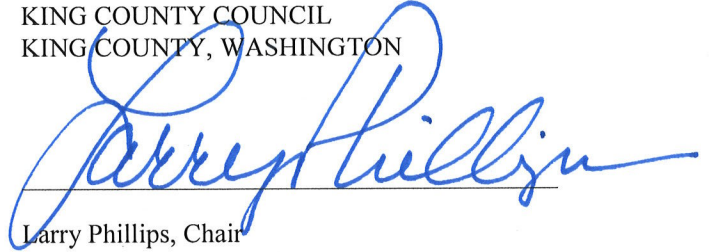
36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

37 King County supports a statewide and national ban on nontherapeutic uses of  
38 antibiotics in livestock production.  
39

Motion 14420 was introduced on 6/8/2015 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 8/31/2015, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr. Upthegrove  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Mr. Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None