

House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA



June 2010

Dear Ballot MPs,

Re: Private Members' Bills 2010

Congratulations on your place in the Ballot for Private Members' Bills.

I am writing to ask you to take up the Sustainable Livestock Bill (see <http://bit.ly/9sKvLF>), which calls on the Government to take steps to fix the food chain. The policies proposed in the bill could bring benefits for farmers, livestock, consumers, and our planet.

There is now growing awareness of the environmental impacts of intensive livestock farming. The meat and dairy industry accounts for one fifth of all greenhouse gas emissions and is a major driver of deforestation and loss of biodiversity.

Intensively produced pigs, poultry and dairy rely on high-protein soy for animal feed to produce enormous yields over a short time-span – but this soy is imported from South America, grown at the expense of the Amazonian rainforest, precious grasslands and local communities.

We urgently need to take action to address this problem.

Policies must be put in place to reduce our reliance on soy and fix the food chain by promoting alternative feeds, grass-fed livestock and a more sustainable model of farming – one that is both humane and planet friendly.

Please use this fantastic opportunity to take up the Sustainable Livestock Bill and help the UK lead the way towards planet-friendly food and farming.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Atkins
Executive Director
Friends of the Earth