New Antibiotic Regulations

FDA directive #213:

Starting in 2017 producers will need a VFD (veterinary feed directive) to use medications in feed or water for therapeutic uses. They will no longer be able to use medications in feed or water in food production purposes such as growth promotion and feed efficiency. This will phase out the use of medically important drugs added to feed or water. This will not affect other dosage forms such as injectable solutions or oral bolus.

VFD is essentially a prescription from your veterinarian based on a VCPR: veterinarianclient-patient-relationship. To use a VFD you will need to consult with both your veterinarian and feed mill and consider the following:

The VFD has an established withdrawal time
The feed is not used longer than the expiration date
It is not mixed with other feeds
There is no extra-label or off-label use
You must keep records for up to 2 years

SB 27 State of California

Basically will require a valid VCPR and prescription of all antibiotic use starting in January 2018. A medically important drug may be used when...

It is necessary to treat a disease or infection

It is necessary to control the spread of a disease or infection

It is necessary in relation to a surgery or medical procedure

It is necessary for prophylaxis due to risk of a disease or infection

It cannot be used for purposes of promoting weight gain or improving feed efficency

CDFA will develop methods of tracking antibiotic use and resistance. Tracking will be voluntary and any collected information will be confidential. CDFA will ensure that medications will still be available in rural areas and retail facilities will be able to sell medications based on a valid prescription and VCPR. There will be no impact on the use of ionophores such as deccox, rumensin or bovatee.

This will eliminate the availability of OTC antibiotics. You will need to have a relationship with a veterinarian to maintain your VCPR and receive prescriptions.