



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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January 5, 2011

Ms. Susan Geranen
California Veterinary Medical Board
2005 Evergreen St., Suite 2250
Sacramento, CA 95815-3831

Dear Ms. Geranen:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA), this nation's premier animal health forum since 1897, approved the following resolution requesting action from the State Veterinary Licensing Boards. The resolution was approved during its 114th Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., November 11-17, 2010. A copy of the resolution is enclosed.

2010 Resolution 11: Preparation of the Veterinary Workforce to Better Perform Accredited Tasks, Including Detection and Response to Animal Disease.

USAHA is a science-based, voluntary organization of official state and federal animal health agencies, national allied organizations, regional representatives and individual members founded to protect animal and public health. USAHA serves as a forum for communication and coordination among state and federal governments, universities, industry and other groups on issues of animal health and disease control, animal welfare, food safety and public health.

USAHA appreciates your consideration of this Resolution. We look forward to your assistance with USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services in helping to advance this effort.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Halstead
President, USAHA

Enc.

115th Annual Meeting
Sept. 29 - Oct. 5, 2011
Buffalo, New York

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UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 11 APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY AND VETERINARY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT MATTER: PREPARATION OF THE VETERINARY WORKFORCE TO BETTER PERFORM ACCREDITED TASKS, INCLUDING DETECTION OF AND RESPONSE TO ANIMAL DISEASE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As stated in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Final Rule announced in the Federal Register Volume 74, December 9, 2009: "We are amending the regulations regarding the National Veterinary Accreditation Program to establish two accreditation categories in place of the former single category, to add requirements for supplemental training and renewal of accreditation, and to offer program certifications. We are making these changes in order to support the Agency's animal health safeguarding initiatives, to involve accredited veterinarians in integrated surveillance activities, and to make the provisions governing our National Veterinary Accreditation Program more uniform and consistent. These changes will increase the level of training and skill of accredited veterinarians in the areas of disease prevention and preparedness for animal health emergencies in the United States." These changes include continuing education requirements for both of the new categories.

Maintaining an adequate number of trained accredited veterinarians is vital to this nation's animal health infrastructure. Accreditation is a national program and therefore requires uniformity. Accreditation training needs to be recognized as acceptable content for continuing education in the maintenance of state licenses.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and the State Licensing Boards to work closely together to assure the content of accreditation material is uniformly presented across all states and that it be approved as continuing educational material toward meeting each state's veterinary license requirements.