



## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE** January 22, 2013

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**TO** Veterinary Medical Board

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**FROM** Sue Geranen Executive Officer  
DCA/Veterinary Medical Board

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**SUBJECT** **American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)**

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**Background:**

The AAVSB is the national regulatory entity for California and for 56 other licensing jurisdictions in the United States, Canada and U.S. territories. The California Board is a member of this organization and as a member is asked to participate when the entity proposed changes to its basic methods of doing business and to its resource documents.

For this meeting, the AAVSB is asking Boards to review its Practice Act Model and see if there are any areas where change might be suggested. The memo from the AAVSB includes the link to the document if the Board wishes to participate in the open comment period.

**Action Requested:**

- 1) Discuss the request for input and consider whether the Board wants to submit comments to the AAVSB.



**TO:** AAVSB Member Board Administrators

**FROM:** Lila Miller, DVM, Chair, PAM Task Force

**DATE:** December 28, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Review and Revision of AAVSB's Practice Act Model (PAM)

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At its September 15, 2012 meeting, the AAVSB Board of Directors, appointed a Practice Act Model (PAM) Task Force. Other members of the task force represent Member Boards and include Markiva Contris, LVT (WA), Cathy Kirkpatrick (OK), Joseph May, DVM (VA), Debbie Whitten, LVT (AL) and board liaison Tom Kendall, DVM (CA.) The group is charged with reviewing, and if necessary, revising the AAVSB's PAM. It is important to note that the AAVSB PAM is a fluid document which is periodically reviewed and updated as appropriate to ensure it reflects the most current thinking.

The original AAVSB Practice Act Model was introduced in 2001 and served as a resource to the AAVSB Member Boards. The last update was in 2009. The PAM reflects a national perspective and the current thinking on professional regulation. One of the PAM's goals is to facilitate greater standardization of terminology and regulation among jurisdictions. An additional goal is that such uniformity will begin to allow jurisdictions to provide for increased public protection through effective regulation as well as facilitating mobility of veterinary professionals from jurisdiction to jurisdiction through the licensure process. As previously stated, the PAM is offered to Member Boards as a *resource* only. Its complete or partial implementation is solely at the discretion of each jurisdiction.

### **Comment Period**

At this time, the PAM Task Force is opening a comment period for Member Board Administrators and board members to comment on the AAVSB's PAM (2009 revision). Comments may be made about specific language in the PAM and/or introduce regulatory issues that are not presently addressed.

It is important that the commentary be documented by referencing the corresponding Articles and Sections in the AAVSB PAM (e.g. comment [Article III, Section 301]).

**The comment period begins January 2, 2013 and extends through March 31, 2013.**

## **Procedures for Submitting Commentary:**

1. Member Board Administrators will need to obtain a current copy of the AAVSB PAM (2009 revision).

A copy of the PAM can be obtained from the AAVSB website <http://www.aavsb.org/PAM>. If you have a problem accessing the document please contact one of the AAVSB staff liaisons for the PAM Task Force, Susan Rehm, Marketing and Members Services Manager ([srehm@aavsb.org](mailto:srehm@aavsb.org)) or Monika Whitmore, Member Services Coordinator ([mwhitmore@aavsb.org](mailto:mwhitmore@aavsb.org)).

2. Member Board Administrators shall distribute a copy of the AAVSB PAM to their board members and ask for them to provide feedback in the format described above.

3. Member Board Administrators will be responsible for collecting and compiling the comments from their board members AND adding their own comments.

4. Member Board Administrators will post the compiled comments in the Member Board Administrator's Forum on the AAVSB website. In order to access this forum, you will need to log-in with your MyAAVSB account information. If you do not have a MyAAVSB account, please contact [aavsb@aavsb.org](mailto:aavsb@aavsb.org). The Member Board Administrator's Forum is a secure site and allows Board Administrators to read posted comments.

Comments will also be accepted via e-mail and must be submitted in the format described above. You may e-mail comments to Susan Rehm ([srehm@aavsb.org](mailto:srehm@aavsb.org)) or Monika Whitmore ([mwhitmore@aavsb.org](mailto:mwhitmore@aavsb.org)). Please use the subject line: PAM Commentary and your jurisdiction's postal abbreviation.

Input from the AAVSB's Member Boards is very valuable and we will use this information judiciously. We appreciate your time and effort in assisting with this endeavor. If you have any questions, please contact Susan or Monika at the e-mail addresses listed above.

Thank you.