

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2009 RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY AND
VETERINARY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT MATTER: REVIEW OF COMPENSATION FOR RESEARCH AND
DIAGNOSTIC VETERINARIANS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Veterinarians are employed in the United States Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Interior, Justice, Veterans Affairs and in the Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Smithsonian, and the United States Agency for International Development.

Veterinarians with advanced scientific training and expertise, including advanced degrees and board certification credentials, are critically needed for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, as the first line responders for many human health issues and as a workforce for ensuring a safe global food supply. The research and diagnostic testing they conduct ensures animal diseases are rapidly identified and vaccines developed. In order to attract and retain these scientists additional compensation is required.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Interior, Justice, Veterans Affairs, and the Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Smithsonian, and the United States Agency for International Development to adjust salaries to achieve parity with other health professional salaries in order to appropriately compensate, recruit and retain veterinarians, including those with advanced degrees or board certification, in high priority research fields, diagnostic fields, and disease surveillance, prevention and control.