

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION-2004

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 29 **APPROVED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON IMPORT EXPORT

SUBJECT MATTER: PRIORITY PASSAGE FOR LIVE ANIMAL CARGO AT BORDER CROSSING

DATES: OCTOBER 27, 2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

With the usage of x-ray technology to screen cargo at border crossings, the waiting time has increased significantly.

There is inconsistency in the priority given to live animal cargo between ports of entry. Some allow more rapid passage for live animal transports, while at others the wait is for hours with all other cargo conveyances. In cases of weather extremes, the resultant long wait times can prove to be cruel and/or fatal to the animals.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) does not have a consistent protocol for live animal cargo. A process to allow vehicles with live animal cargo to move ahead of inanimate cargo should be developed to avoid suffering of animals.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) communicate to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the need to develop a process to allow vehicles with live animals on board to advance ahead of other vehicles in line that are carrying inanimate cargo to enhance the well being of the animals and avoid suffering.

RESPONSE:

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) – NO RESPONSE – 5-26-05