

## UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2006

**RESOLUTION:** 24 NOT APPROVED

**SOURCE:** COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL WELFARE

**SUBJECT MATTER:** THE BAN OF DOUBLE-DECK TRAILERS TRANSPORTING EQUINES TO PROCESSING FACILITIES

**DATES:** MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER 12-18, 2006

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

February 2002, Part 88 Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations became effective pertaining to the transport of equines to processing facilities. The regulations were based on data collected from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-funded studies by Colorado State University, Texas A&M University, and the University of California. These studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals documented that the number of horses injured in double-deck trailers (29%) was greater than straight-deck (8%) trailers. These data led to the specific Federal regulation Part 88.3(4)(b) which was a "grandfather" clause to eliminate the use of two-tiered trailers by December 7, 2006. The 5-year clause was implemented to minimize economic losses by those dependent on the use of the double-deck trailers. Thus, there is a need to enact state regulations banning the use of double-deck trailers following the termination of the Federal five-year phase-out period on the use of double-deck trailers for horses commercially transported to processing facilities.

### RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests state animal health officials to work through the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials (NASAHO) to enact and enforce a ban on commercially transporting horses in double-deck trailers to processing facilities. USAHA recognizes this joint effort as an effective measure in ensuring the humane and safe transport of horses to processing facilities both domestically and internationally.