

United States Animal Health Association – 2004

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 7 **APPROVED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON LABORATORY AND VETERINARY
WORKFORCE INITIATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AND EMERGING DISEASES
USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH INFORMATION
SYSTEMS

SUBJECT MATTER: FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH
LABORATORY NETWORK

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) is part of a national strategy to coordinate the Nation's Federal, State, and University laboratory resources to allow authorities to better respond to any type of animal health emergency, including bioterrorist events, newly emerging diseases, and foreign animal disease (FAD) agents that threaten the Nation's food supply and public health.

In fiscal year 2002, 12 State and University diagnostic laboratories, were selected by Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to receive Homeland Security grants to formally initiate the network. In order to insure that the NAHLN is fully capable of responding to any animal health emergency, funding will be required for appropriate facilities, training and equipment. In addition, it is essential that annual allocations be provided for the maintenance and long-term sustainment of the network.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests the House Agriculture and the Senate Agriculture, Rural Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees immediately provide \$85 million to fully fund the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

Furthermore, the USAHA urges the Secretary of Agriculture to request line item funding in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) budget in the amount of \$30 million per year for ongoing support for the NAHLN.

RESPONSE:

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

HOUSE AG
SENATE AG FORRESTRY
SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS