



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2013 RESOLUTION

117TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17-23, 2013 ~ SAN DIEGO, CA

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 22 - APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SHEEP AND GOATS

**SUBJECT MATTER: SEPARATE SHEEP AND GOAT COMMODITY HEALTH
LINE ITEM**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In FY 2011, the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) primarily addressed sheep and goat health/disease issues through the National Scrapie Eradication Program and National Animal Health Monitoring System studies. For FY 2012, VS requested that Congress approve commodity-based funding which would include horses, cervids, sheep, and goats in a single line item where funding could be transferred between the commodities based on priorities identified by VS and its partners. The proposed grouping of these species is reminiscent of the failed "Miscellaneous Diseases" line item in the VS budget of over 20 years ago.

The United States Animal Health Association is concerned that sheep and goat funding may be diverted to address needs of other species, which could jeopardize the eradication of scrapie from the United States and the health and well-being of sheep and goats.

The currently proposed species grouping of Equines, Cervids, and Small Ruminants (sheep and goats) is not appropriate to serve the health and disease needs of such a diverse group of animals. Equines and Cervids have very few common health and disease issues with Sheep and Goats. Emerging diseases in each of the species in the proposed grouping will most likely result in even less commonality in disease/health priorities among these species.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to establish a separate funding line item for Sheep and Goat Health.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services recognizes the concerns of the U.S. Animal Health Association and



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appreciates the opportunity to respond. Both fiscal years (FY) 2013 and FY 2014 President's Budgets proposed creating a separate funding line for Sheep and Goat Health. Congress chose not to create this separate funding line when it finalized the FY 2013 and 2014 APHIS appropriations.