

United States Animal Health Association – 2004

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 27 **APPROVED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF SWINE

SUBJECT MATTER: CONFIDENTIALITY OF COLLECTED DATA

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

There are significant numbers of scientific databases containing information regarding characterization of microbial isolates that are held by industry, government and academia that are inaccessible to each other. This inaccessibility is attributed to concerns that the information is subject to the Freedom of Information Act which, may result in punitive consequences, disrupting the scientific and economic integrity of the scientific community.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) take steps to protect the confidentiality of scientific data in order to foster collaborative research efforts and exchange of information between USDA agencies, industry, and academia.

RESPONSE:

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