



May 23, 2017

Benjamin Richey
United States Animal Health Association
4221 Mitchell Avenue
Saint Joseph, MO 64507

RE: USAHA 2016 Resolution #1 – Veterinary License Reciprocity in Emergencies

Dear Mr. Richey:

Pursuant to the resolution received from the USAHA on Veterinary License Reciprocity in Emergencies, the AAVSB Board of Directors has conducted several conversations regarding the USAHA request to develop and distribute a position statement to our Member Boards supporting processes that would enable veterinary medical personnel to operate under reciprocal veterinary medical licensure when emergency assistance is requested by their state. Following the receipt of the USAHA request, the AAVSB Board of Directors directed staff to survey our Member Boards to determine which jurisdictions had a process in place to accommodate veterinary license reciprocity in emergencies and to ascertain how such processes were regulated.

In response to the USAHA request and the data gathered, the AAVSB Board of Directors determined the best course of action would be to educate our Member Boards as to the concern and to provide several examples of regulatory language/process that could be adopted to address this issue. The AAVSB staff has been directed to identify examples of regulatory process that are in place in those jurisdictions that currently recognize out-of-state licenses during emergencies. We will be sending out correspondence to all AAVSB Member Boards in the near future addressing the issue and providing examples of regulatory process.

In addition, we have been in correspondence with the Council of State Governments, National Center for Interstate Compacts which has agreed to introduce the concept of state compacts to the AAVSB Member Boards in September 2017 at the AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference.

We appreciate the USAHA effort to identify the issue of Veterinary License Reciprocity in Emergencies and to bring it to attention of the AAVSB for consideration. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

James T. Penrod, CAE, FASLA
AAVSB Executive Director

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