RESOLUTION NUMBER: 9  APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY AND VETERINARY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT MATTER: SUPPORT FOR SECTION 1433 FORMULA FUNDS FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND RESEARCH

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 1433 Formula Funds (P.L. 95-113) have been in existence since 1977 and provide an extremely valuable source of funds for fundamental research on diseases of food producing animals. These funds are important for the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and the Veterinary Science departments in the United States. In the past, these funds allowed food animal related research on local and emerging diseases; however, these funds have been steadily dwindling and eroded by inflation. As a result, college faculties are shifting efforts to National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded research which will not support research on agricultural animals or on food safety at the farm level. Section 1433 Formula Funds have also supported training graduate students in most colleges and veterinary science departments. There are no other funds available at this time to provide this much needed support.

For a number of years the President’s budget had not included any money for Section 1433 Formula Funds, but Congress has provided less annually. In FY11, $2.95 million was appropriated to the fund.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the President include the authorized level of $10 million for Section 1433 Formula Funds (P.L. 95-113) in his Annual Budget request.

USAHA also requests the House of Representatives and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committees to fund Section 1433 Formula Funds (P.L. 95-113) at the authorized level of $10 million per year.
RESPONSE:

APHIS and NIFA
USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will continue to support animal health and production-related efforts through our Agriculture and Food Research Initiative programs. These programs provide opportunities for science-based discoveries. Recent programs such as NIFA’s pre and post-doctoral fellowships and the National Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program are proving to be extremely beneficial in filling subject-matter-expertise gaps in animal health sciences, as well as ensuring adequate veterinary services coverage across the Nation. USDA will continue to ensure adequate funds are available to address programs that are critical in supporting animal health sciences and infrastructure across our Nation. We appreciate your support of NIFA programs and will keep your suggestions in mind as we develop the FY 2013 budget.