RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to include a public health module in the veterinary accreditation program.

RESPONSE:

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS)

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) supports the development of a public health module and in promoting public health education as part of the core training for the new veterinary accreditation program. The public health module we propose will provide a general knowledge of public health issues and an understanding of how to minimize the risk of zoonotic diseases for clients and veterinary staff. The module will provide basic information on a number of important zoonotic diseases and provide links to various public health resources. In addition, it will cover how to report a
zoonotic disease and prevention practices that veterinarians can share with clients, staff and colleagues. The importance of interaction and communication between veterinarians, public health specialists, and medical doctors will also be addressed.