AVMA American Veterinary Medical Association

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September 23, 2009

The Honorable Adrian Smith
United States House of Representatives
503 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Leonard Boswell
United States House of Representatives
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Supporters of the Veterinarian Services Investment Act

Dear Representatives Smith and Boswell,

The undersigned organizations representing a broad range of interests relating to veterinary medicine, food safety and food animal agriculture enthusiastically offer our support for the bipartisan Veterinarian Services Investment Act. We commend you for your leadership in sponsoring this important legislation which will bolster the availability of veterinary services across the country.

Your legislation recognizes that the demand for large-animal veterinarians is soaring but a shortage persists that could put the nation's agriculture economy at risk. It also recognizes that veterinarians are needed to identify naturally occurring diseases as well as diseases that might be the result of bio- or agro-terrorism. The legislation would help to support veterinarians who are the only doctors trained to protect both animal and human health while playing a key role in public health and in the production of a safe and healthy food supply.

Your legislation will help our nation to address the challenges it faces to relieve veterinary shortages and to enhance the professional lives of veterinarians and veterinary technicians through relevant programs that will improve the well-being of livestock as well as the economic success of their owners, increase awareness and promote leadership for issues critical to food safety as well as to food production industries, and improve opportunities for careers in veterinary medicine. Finally, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act will help ensure a stable and safe food supply for citizens in the United States.

Sincerely,
Alabama Veterinary Medical Association
Alaska Veterinary Medical Association
American Animal Hospital Association
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

American Association of Avian Pathologists
American Association of Bovine Practitioners
American Association of Corporate and Public Practice Veterinarians
American Association of Feline Practitioners
American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners
American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians
American Association Senior Veterinarians
American College of Poultry Veterinarians
American College of Veterinary Pathologists
American Horse Council
American Farm Bureau Federation®
American Feed Industry Association
American Meat Institute
American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists
American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners
American Veterinary Medical Association
Animal Agriculture Alliance
Animal Health Institute
Arizona Veterinary Medical Association
Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association
Association for Women Veterinarians Foundation
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Bayer Animal Health
Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
California Veterinary Medical Association
Colegio de Medicos Veterinarios de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico VMA)
Colorado Veterinary Medical Association
Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association
Delaware Veterinary Medical Association
District of Columbia Veterinary Medical Association
Florida Veterinary Medical Association
Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association
Idaho Veterinary Medical Association
Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
Iowa Veterinary Medical Association
Indiana Veterinary Medical Association
Kansas Veterinary Medical Association
Kansas City Animal Health Corridor
Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
Maine Veterinary Medical Association
Maryland Veterinary Medical Association
Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association
Michigan Veterinary Medical Association
Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association
Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association

Missouri Veterinary Medical Association
Montana Veterinary Medical Association
National Association of Federal Veterinarians
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Chicken Council
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pork Producers Council
National Turkey Federation
Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association
Nevada Veterinary Medical Association
New Hampshire Veterinary Medical Association
New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association
New Mexico Veterinary Medical Association
New York State Veterinary Medical Society
North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association
North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association
Ohio Veterinary Medical Association
Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association
Oregon Veterinary Medical Association
Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association
Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association
Schering-Plough
Society for Theriogenology
South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association
Synbiotics Corporation
Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association
Texas Veterinary Medical Association
United States Animal Health Association
Utah Veterinary Medical Association
Vermont Veterinary Medical Association
Virginia Veterinary Medical Association
Washington State Veterinary Medical Association
West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association
Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association
Wyoming Veterinary Medical Association

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