

H.R. 1406 Update - Only Two Days Remain to Submit Public Commentary to the FTC

While [H.R. 1406, the Fairness to Pet Owners Act](#), which would mandate prescription writing, remains quiet in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Health with only five cosponsors, the AVMA is focusing efforts on educating the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). [The FTC will be hosting a public workshop October 2](#), in Washington, DC, to examine competition and consumer protection issues in the pet medications industry. For more information in the issue, [listen](#) to this short podcast with FTC staff. The workshop is free and open to the public.

Additionally, the [FTC has posed questions in the Federal Register](#) to which they are seeking input from the public. Comments are due by September 14 and can be [submitted electronically](#) or via postal mail; however, electronic submissions are encouraged due to the delay in delivery of postal mail.

Throughout this public comment period, veterinarians have the opportunity to provide feedback to the FTC. There are numerous examples of the veterinary profession making an impact after expressing our perspectives and concerns to the Executive Branch. Now is another time when policy-makers need to hear from the profession.

There is significant interest in the FTC hearing on October 2 about the dispensing of pet medications. ISVMA is working on the comments we want to submit by the September 14 deadline, and we have tried to focus less on the financial impact and regulatory burden on veterinary practices and more on how changes in dispensing could negatively impact patient care. Jim Wilson, DVM, JD, has offered to share his comments he submitted to the FTC. That document – in which Dr. Wilson so eloquently articulates a number of key arguments – most of them having to do with risks to patient care – [is attached with his permission](#).

For more information please contact [Dr. Ashley Morgan](#), assistant director, AVMA Governmental Relations Division.

Register Now for ISVMA 130th Annual Convention



The 130th ISVMA Annual Convention will be held at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center Hotel in Lombard, IL on November 2-4, 2012. A copy of the [program and registration brochure](#) can be downloaded from this website. [Online registration](#) is also now available for this meeting. Please plan to join us in Lombard for another outstanding convention! **Register early to get a seat in one of the 8 wet labs or in the USDA Accreditation Modules.**

ISVMA Monthly Legislative Report

In an effort to keep ISVMA members more aware of Illinois politics and legislative and regulatory actions that impact their practices, ISVMA publishes a monthly legislative report. Please read the [August Legislative Report](#).

Volunteers Needed to be Part of History

The 2013 AVMA Annual Convention will be July 19-23 at McCormick Place in Chicago. This is your chance to help veterinarians in Illinois, as the host State, make this 150th AVMA Convention the best ever. As chair of the Convention Task Force for the ISVMA, I am seeking volunteers to help in welcoming attendees to our wonderful State of Illinois and City of Chicago. There are many opportunities for you which include moderators, hosts, registration assistance, information greeters, etc. For 10 hours of volunteer work or 8 hours of being a moderator your registration will be rebated. Now is the time to raise your hand and offer your help. Please email me your contact information if you are interested in joining your colleagues celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the AVMA. srubin3134@aol.com.

Breeder's Choice Pet Food Recalls AvoDerm Natural Lamb Meal & Brown Rice Adult Dog Formula Because of Possible Salmonella Health Risk

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) - September 11, 2012 - Breeder's Choice Pet Food is recalling a single manufacturing batch of Breeder's Choice AvoDerm Natural Lamb Meal & Brown Rice Adult Dog Formula due to possible contamination with Salmonella. [Read the full report and the product dates included in the recall.](#)



Are Animal-Borne Diseases on the Rise?

A string of recent reports of people falling ill and dying of diseases that spread to people from animals might have you wondering: Are animal-borne diseases on the rise? From hantavirus to bird flu to West Nile, diseases crossing from animals to people is becoming more common. [Read the entire article from Discovery News.](#)

About the Photo

The [Yellow-crowned Night Heron](#) (*Nyctanassa violacea*) is a short, stocky wading bird about 24 inches in length with a wingspan of a little under four feet. It has long yellow to orange legs, red eyes, a black bill, and a short neck. It has a slate gray body, a black head with a white streak on the side of its face and a yellowish-white crown. In breeding season it has a yellow plume of feathers on its head. Males and females look alike. Immature yellow-crowned night herons are a mottled grayish-brown.

The Yellow-crowned Night Heron breeds from southern New England south to Florida and west to Texas. It also breeds along the Mississippi River. It winters on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts. It lives in wooded swamps, fresh and saltwater marshes and thickets.

This easily recognized species forages for food both in the day and at night. Most of the yellow-crowned night heron's diet is made up of crustaceans like crabs and crayfish. It sometimes eats fish, eels, mussels, frogs, tadpoles, aquatic insects, snails, and small snakes. It either stands and waits for its prey to swim by or wades in the shallow water and slowly stalks its prey.

The Yellow-crowned Night Heron is more solitary than other herons. It prefers to nest separately from other birds.

This species does breed in parts of Illinois, but I took this photograph in Florida in 2007.

Contact Us

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