

Governor Signs ISVMA Proposed Bill Into Law

Public Act 95-0180 amends the Child Labor Law to clarify that minors under 16 years of age are prohibited from being employed, permitted, or allowed to work in occupations that involve the handling or storage of human blood, human blood products, human body fluids, or human body tissues (instead of blood, blood products, body fluids, or body tissues).

This new law was proposed by ISVMA in House Bill 3165 (sponsored by State Representative Ed Sullivan, Jr. and State Senator Michael Frerichs). The bill passed unanimously in both the Illinois House of Representatives and the Illinois Senate and became PA 95-0180 when it was approved by Governor Blagojevich on 8/14/2007.

ISVMA would like to thank the hundreds of veterinarians who contacted their legislators and the governor to request their support of this legislation.

ISVMA Legislative Action Alert!

Please thank your legislators and the governor for their support of House Bill 3165 by completing the Action Alerts at <http://capwiz.com/isvma/home/>.

The first alert will automatically send a thank you email to the Governor, your state senator and your state representative.

The second alert will send a thank you to the sponsors of House Bill 3165: Representative Ed Sullivan, Jr. (son of Edward Sullivan, DVM) and Senator Michael Frerichs were very supportive of ISVMA during the legislative session.

Governor Enacts Additional Legislation of Interest to Veterinarians

PA 95-0093 amends the Illinois Bovine Brucellosis Eradication Act. The new law provides that an animal with a positive reaction to a test for brucellosis must be reviewed by a designated brucellosis epidemiologist or another State and federally approved designee, before the animal may be classified as an "infected animal" or "reactor". It also defines "designated brucellosis epidemiologist" and provides that animals with a positive result to an official brucellosis test at livestock markets may be slaughtered or returned to the herd of origin only by permit and under quarantine for further evaluation.

PA 95-0179 amends the Illinois Diseased Animals Act by defining "contaminated". It also modifies the provisions of the Act to apply to contaminated animals and provides that the Department shall have the authority to issue area-wide quarantines on animals and premises in order to control the spread of the dangerously contagious or infectious disease and to reduce the spread of contamination. The new law also provides that quarantines will be removed when epidemiological evidence indicates that the disease or contamination threat to humans or other animals no longer exists.

Convention Materials on the Way

The 2007 ISVMA Annual Convention will be held November 2-4, 2007 in Peoria, IL. The Convention Prospectus will be mailed within days and will include a full program description, schedule and a registration form.

Copies of the Convention Prospectus will also be made available on the ISVMA website so that you can encourage your colleagues and staff to take advantage of the superior continuing education program. ***We will send an email to all ISVMA members when the materials are available online.***

The ISVMA Annual Convention is a tremendous bargain! Veterinary professionals in Illinois can save money and time by attending a high quality, local convention with a comprehensive and diverse

program that can only be matched by larger and more expensive regional and national conventions.

Membership Suspensions

ISVMA members that have not renewed their dues for the 2007-2008 membership year have had their membership privileges suspended.

Suspended members will not receive the Epitome or E-SOURCE newsletters, enjoy member benefit programs, discount registrations or notifications of major regulatory or legal updates. They will also lose their continuous service status - which will delay their progress to Life Membership. Most importantly, they will lose out on the opportunity to support the veterinary profession by joining with colleagues to represent our interests before the Illinois General Assembly, Executive Branch and regulatory agencies.

Suspended members will be reinstated upon payment of dues. Their memberships will be terminated on June 30, 2008.

About the Photo in This Issue...

The Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is a common bird of the western plains of North America. There is a small, isolated breeding population in north-central Illinois.

This species is one of the most highly migratory of all North American hawks, leaving its breeding grounds in the fall to winter in the pampas of South America. In a life span of seven or eight years, a Swainson's hawk might cover as much as 15,000 miles during its migrations north and south.

The Swainson's Hawk is a slender raptor slightly smaller in size than a Red-tailed Hawk. However, the Swainson's Hawk has a slightly longer wingspan and slimmer wings than other soaring hawks. In flight, the Swainson's Hawk holds its wings in a shallow "V" dihedral and teeters in flight a little like a Turkey Vulture. The long, slim, pointed wings are diagnostic when they show the two-toned effect of pale wing linings and dark flight feathers. No other buteo shows such consistently dark flight feathers.

The habitat of the Swainson's Hawk consists of open and semi-open country in both its breeding and wintering ranges. In North America, it is found in the southwest deserts, grasslands and prairies of the intermountain states and provinces, and the grasslands of the Great Plains. Swainson's require trees for nesting and is found around aspen groves, riparian areas, and farmlands.

It favors wild prairie, hayfields, and pastures over wheat fields and alfalfa fields which may offer its prey too much cover. It requires elevated perches for hunting and a supply of small mammals such as young ground squirrels as prey for its nestlings. The breeding distribution of the Swainson's hawk is tied very closely to the distribution of various small mammals for this reason. In Saskatchewan, for example, the distribution of Richardson's ground squirrel and the Swainson's hawk are precisely the same.

The winter migration of the Swainson's Hawk is an incredible sight. They migrate overland in vast flocks that fill the skies with birds and the viewer with awe.

I photographed this Swainson's Hawk in the Pawnee National Grasslands, Colorado in May 2007.

Contact Us

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If you wish to add your name to the recipient list, send an e-mail to info@isvma.org and ask to receive the E-SOURCE newsletter.

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