

AVMA Legislative Action Alert

Please contact your Representatives to tell them to vote "No" on H.R. 1406. This bill is redundant and unnecessary. Pet owners already have the choice of getting prescriptions for their pets and filling them anywhere they want, so there's no need for the extra federally-induced hassles this will create.

For more background and directions on how to contact your Congressional representatives, please visit the AVMA-CAN alert at: <http://avmacan.avma.org/avma/callalert/index.tt?alertid=44262536>

ISVMA Board of Directors Includes First CVT Representative

In November of 2008, at the ISVMA Annual Meeting, an amendment to the ISVMA Constitution was put to the vote: Should the Illinois Veterinary Medical Association add a new membership category to include Certified Veterinary Technicians?

In what would be a resounding "YES", the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA) became the first statewide professional association to represent more than one licensed veterinary professional: membership was now available to both veterinarians and certified veterinary technicians.

Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT) membership has steadily increased since then. In early 2011 their levels surpassed - the minimum requirement of 100 CVT members; which, according to the ISVMA Constitution, triggered the requirement to add a voting CVT member to the ISVMA Board of Directors.

The election process began when nomination forms were mailed to all ISVMA CVT Members on March 9, 2011, encouraging member participation in the election. The deadline to return the nomination form was March 27. This process was used to provide all CVT members the same opportunity to nominate a member candidate. As stated in the ISVMA Constitution:

"Each qualified Veterinary Technician member is allowed to nominate a representative to the ISVMA Board of Directors from within the Veterinary Technician membership. The nominee must be a current Veterinary Technician member of the ISVMA."

When the nomination period ended, two deserving and highly qualified candidates were placed on the election ballot. The race was between Linda J. Brown, CVT (University of IL College of Veterinary Medicine) and Caroline Miskell, CVT, LVT (VCA Berwyn Animal Hospital). The ballots were mailed by April 9 with the voting closing on midnight, April 29. It was an extremely close race. When the votes were tallied, the first elected CVT representative to the ISVMA Board of Directors was Caroline Miskell.

Ms. Miskell will take her seat at the June 15, 2011 ISVMA Board Meeting in Springfield, IL and will hold the position until the ISVMA Annual Meeting in November 2014. She will be eligible to run for a second three-year term in 2014, when her first term expires.

New Graduates and DVM Licensure

Every year, ISVMA receives many phone calls from practices wondering when is the earliest a recent graduate can expect to begin practicing as a doctor of veterinary medicine?

Although the question never changes, there is a new law that was introduced by the ISVMA in 2010 that has changed the answer to this commonly asked question.

In the past, recent graduates in Illinois would have to wait for an indefinite amount of time from the time they graduated until they received their license and were unable to practice veterinary medicine while they waited for their license to be processed. In the not too distant past, this delay in getting recent graduates to work as veterinarians could take months. The Practice Act specified

that without a license to practice, newly graduated veterinarians could not diagnose patients, perform surgery or make prescriptions – even under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

Since July 27, 2010, when the ISVMA proposed changes to the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act were signed into law, graduates of AVMA accredited colleges of veterinary medicine may now work while waiting for license approval from the State of Illinois. In the statute it provides that a veterinarian applicant can work UNDER DIRECTOR SUPERVISION of a supervising veterinarian who is licensed in Illinois until receiving their license:

(225 ILCS 115/11) (from Ch. 111, par. 7011)
(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2014)

Sec. 11. Practice pending licensure. A person holding the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or its equivalent, from an accredited college of veterinary medicine, and who has applied in writing to the Department for a license to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in any of its branches, and who has fulfilled the requirements of Section 8 of this Act, with the exception of receipt of notification of his or her examination results, may practice under the direct supervision of a veterinarian who is licensed in this State, until: (1) the applicant has been notified of his or her failure to pass the examination authorized by the Department; (2) the applicant has withdrawn his or her application; (3) the applicant has received a license from the Department after successfully passing the examination authorized by the Department; or (4) the applicant has been notified by the Department to cease and desist from practicing.

The applicant shall perform only those acts that may be prescribed by and incidental to his or her employment and those acts shall be performed under the direction of a supervising veterinarian who is licensed in this State. The applicant shall not be entitled to otherwise engage in the practice of veterinary medicine until fully licensed in this State.

The Department shall immediately notify, by certified mail, the supervising veterinarian employing the applicant and the applicant that the applicant shall immediately cease and desist from practicing if the applicant (1) practices outside his or her employment under a licensed veterinarian; (2) violates any provision of this Act; or (3) becomes ineligible for licensure under this Act.

(Source: P.A. 96-571, eff. 8-18-09; 96-638, eff. 8-24-09; 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10.)

Now Accepting Nominations for Outstanding Veterinarian Awards

Nominate a colleague or classmate for the 2011 Outstanding Veterinarian Awards (*The ISVMA Veterinary Service Award and Dr. Erwin Small First Decade Award*). Nominations close August 31, 2011. [Complete the form](#) and forward nomination materials by fax (217/546-5633), email (info@isvma.org) or postage mail to Outstanding Veterinarian Awards, 1121 Chatham Road, Springfield IL 62704.

ISVMA Membership Renewal Process Begins Soon

The Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA) is reminding its members that the current membership year expires on June 31, 2011.

Dues renewal forms will be in the mail the third week of May. Please renew your membership before the expiration date of June 31, 2011 to avoid a disruption of services and to continue receiving discounted pricing to ISVMA events

Executive Pork Producers Program, Certificate in Business Management

November 2011 through May 2013

Register by July 5, 2011, for a \$500 discount!

The Executive Pork Producers Program builds on the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine's award-winning Executive Veterinary Program (EVP). EVP was developed in 1991 to enhance the business, communication, and planning skills of busy animal health professionals. Since that time top swine industry veterinarians from throughout North America have benefitted from the program.

The Executive Pork Producers Program (EP3) addresses essential skills for excellence in swine business management. The objective of EP3 is to enhance the financial management, leadership, strategic thinking, and problem-solving skills of leaders in the pork industry.

Program Organization - EP3 is a comprehensive interdisciplinary certificate program distinct from many traditional educational programs. Ten interactive learning modules will be held every other month for two days each (Thursday and Friday). In the time between each module, you will be expected to complete assigned work while applying the information in your workplace. Modules are organized sequentially to enhance the integration of the subject matter.

Program Modules - EP3 meets every other month for two days each (Thursday and Friday). All sessions will be held at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine campus in Urbana, Ill. The first meeting begins with Module 1 on November 10-11, 2011 with the final Module 10 held May 16-17, 2013.

Admission Requirements - Enrollment is open to pork producers interested in increasing their business acumen and leadership skills.

EP3 Coordinators - Dr. Larry Firkins and Dr. Jim Lowe, both graduates of the Executive Veterinary Program, have spent their careers in the pork industry as veterinarians, educators, and business consultants. They bring a unique set of skills gained from working in and with some of the most progressive pork production companies in North America. Their work on swine health and management issues has resulted in serving the global swine industry in 20 countries. Dr. Firkins is a recognized leader for training veterinarians and livestock producers in human resource and leadership skills. Dr. Lowe's practical experience in teaching, consulting, and managing pork production systems brings a practical, get-it-done perspective to today's business challenges. Together they have developed an educational program that reflects their diverse experiences to benefit pork producers in an increasingly competitive market.

Lawrence D. Firkins, DVM, MS, MBA ~ Assistant Dean for Public Engagement ~ University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine

James F. Lowe, DVM, MS ~ Visiting Clinical Instructor ~ University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine

Registration - Tuition for registrations placed by July 5, 2011, is \$7500; a deposit of \$500 is due at the time of registration. Tuition for registrations placed after July 5, is \$8000; a deposit of \$1000 is due at the time of registration. The balance is payable in five installments of \$1400 each on November 10, 2011, March 1, 2012, July 12, 2012, November 8, 2012, March 14, 2013. Enrollment is limited to 40 participants. Registration includes all program materials, daily lunches, and one dinner per module.

Registration is available online at <https://ecommerce.aces.illinois.edu/EPPP/>.

Download a PDF of the printed registration materials.

At <http://executiveproducersprogram.org/2011-13%20EP3%20Registration%20Document.pdf>

For More Information contact Lawrence D. Firkins, firkins@illinois.edu, 217 333 2907.

Are You Following ISVMA on Facebook?

The ISVMA recently launched a new Facebook Fan Page. This new page will allow for more dynamic and interactive content for anyone that chooses to "Like" the page. Follow news about Illinois veterinary medicine, veterinary professionals in the news, USDA and other regulatory alerts, legal updates and more!

If you have a Facebook page, go to <http://www.facebook.com/ISVMA> and choose to "Like" the new ISVMA Fan Page!

The new ISVMA Facebook Fan Page has links to many current articles and topics of interest to veterinarians. This E-SOURCE Newsletter will be cut short to encourage ISVMA members to become a fan of the new Facebook page and get regular updates from ISVMA, AVMA and other organizations that bring you news and information you want and need!

About the Photo

The tallest bird in North America, the [Whooping Crane](#) (*Grus americana*) was once at the brink of extinction. The population of this species had fallen to less than 20 birds by World War II. It is making a steady recovery thanks to intensive management efforts in Canada and the United States, and as of December 2004, 468 Whooping Cranes existed in the wild and in captivity.

The population of Whooping Cranes has been rising steadily, at about four percent per year. Approximately 220 of the birds migrate in the only "wild" flock remaining. Their migratory path is from the Central Gulf Coast of Texas to Canada.

Whooping Crane recovery efforts involve multiple agencies in the public, private, and nonprofit sector in the United States and Canada. Such efforts include habitat management, captive breeding, and leading birds along migration routes with ultralight aircraft.

The largest and most successful reintroduction program involves birds that travel from Necedah National Wildlife Refuge in central Wisconsin, where they are reared by humans wearing white clothes and hoods, to Chassahowitzka and St. Mark's national wildlife refuges on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Over the years, Operation Migration has escorted more than 100 birds on the trip to imprint the route on the birds, taking 23 days in flight to cover 1,285 miles. The Wisconsin-to-Florida flock now numbers nearly 80 birds. The goal is to reach the self-sustaining level of 125 individual birds and 25 breeding pairs.

whooping Cranes are seen in Illinois more frequently as the Operation Migration birds migrate.

Contact Us

Please feel free to forward this issue of the E-SOURCE to veterinarians that are not receiving ISVMA's electronic newsletter. Any ISVMA member may subscribe to the E-SOURCE for free.

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.

ISVMA values your membership and does not want to send you any unwanted email. If you would like to be removed from this member service, please email info@isvma.org.