



State Agriculture and Rural Leaders

2013-1 Resolution on the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act of 2013

Passed June 9, 2013

- Whereas,** the State Ag and Rural Leaders, (SARL) is comprised of agriculture and rural leaders of state and provincial legislative bodies from the US and Canada; and
- Whereas,** the practice of veterinary medicine is unique in that veterinarians treat multiple species of animals in different practice settings and veterinarians' ability to practice medicine often requires that they be able to provide mobile or ambulatory services; and
- Whereas,** the provision of mobile or ambulatory services is particularly important in rural areas and for the care of large animals because it is often not feasible, practical or possible for owners to bring livestock to a bricks-and-mortar clinic or hospital; and
- Whereas,** controlled substances are used by veterinarians in treatment, research and disease control activities that may be conducted away from their registered principal places of business; and
- Whereas,** the Drug Enforcement Administration has interpreted the federal Controlled Substances Act to make it illegal for veterinarians to transport controlled substances for use outside of a registered location; and
- Whereas,** the Drug Enforcement Administration has informed organized veterinary medicine that transporting controlled substances by veterinarians legally will require a statutory change; and
- Whereas,** it is imperative that veterinarians be able to legally transport controlled substances to the location of the animal patient in the interest of animal health, welfare, and public safety; and
- Whereas,** H.R. 1528, the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act, was introduced in the House of Representatives and similar language is included in S 954, the Senate's Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013 to allow veterinarians to transport controlled substances for treatment of animals; now therefore be it
- Resolved,** that SARL supports the passage of H.R. 1528 or inclusion of similar language in the final farm bill of 2013; and be it further
- Resolved,** that this resolution be submitted to members of the United States Congress.