



2788

advancing animal welfare and human health while ensuring the vitality of the profession

pennsylvania veterinary medical association
12 briarcrest square
hershey, pennsylvania 17033
717.533.7934 / 888.550.7862 / 717.533.4761 FX
www.pavma.org



October 19, 2009

Pennsylvania Department of State
Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
State Board of Veterinary Medicine
Attn: Michelle Roberts, Administrator
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

RECEIVED
2009 OCT 23 AM 9:08
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Roberts:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA) and its 1,900 member veterinarians, I thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed rulemaking #16A-5723, Biennial renewal fees.

We have no objections to the biennial renewal fee increase as proposed in light of the past deficits and projected future deficits anticipated due to real expenditures surpassing the income brought in from licensure renewal fees. We realize that there have been deficits and the Board will continue to have deficits unless licensure renewal fees are increased is because of an increase in the number of complaints against veterinarians, particularly allegations of negligence or malpractice which require substantial resources to investigate, review, and prosecute. We also understand that the Board must be self-sufficient financially.

If there is anything we can do to help educate the veterinary profession and potentially help decrease the number of complaints and therefore, reduce the need to increase the licensure renewal fees in the future, please let us know. We welcome the opportunity to work with the State Board to ensure that the profession is as exemplary it can be which is also in the best interest of the clients and the patients the profession serves.

If you have any questions, please contact our Executive Director Charlene Wandzilak at cwandzilak@pavma.org, or 717-533-7934.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa A. Murphy, VMD, DABT
President

- Cc: Ms. Robin Bernstein, Chair, State Board of Veterinary Medicine
Ms. Teresa Lazo, Assistant Counsel, State Board of Veterinary Medicine
House Professional Licensure Committee
Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee
Ms. Joyce McKeever, Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Mr. John Jewett, Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Ms. Michale A. Totino, Independent Regulatory Review Commission