



Dear Readers of US Veterinarian 2005

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) is the leading voice of veterinary regulation in North America. Incorporated in 1960, AAVSB now represents 57 veterinary state boards in the United States and Canada. In the last 15 years, AAVSB has grown from a loosely organized group to a formidable veterinary organization. AAVSB serves a critical function for veterinary regulators by improving communication between veterinary state boards at a time when veterinarians frequently practice across state lines and communication is increasingly electronic.

AAVSB facilitates discussion between veterinary boards on important regulatory issues and strives to standardize the regulatory process, for the benefit of the licensee and the public. AAVSB is an active participant in the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB), an organization representing regulatory leaders of fourteen professions. Through FARB, AAVSB stays current on regulatory trends affecting all professions. In addition, AAVSB has forged working relationships with the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB), the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT), and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), regulators of three professions that interface with veterinary medicine.

Once each year, veterinary board members and board administrators gather for the AAVSB annual meeting – a time for training, idea exchange, and to vote on key issues affecting the organization. However, regular communication takes place between jurisdictions through active list serves for board administrators and board members.

Trends to watch in veterinary regulation include increased participation on state boards by public members and technicians, innovative methods to evaluate continued competency, and enhanced collaborative practice laws.

AAVSB exists to provide services to its member boards to ensure that the public is served by competent veterinarians. The newly revamped AAVSB website [www.aavsb.org](http://www.aavsb.org) provides detailed information on all AAVSB services and programs.

Yours very truly,

On behalf of the AAVSB  
Executive Committee

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