

May 17, 2016

## 2015-2017 SECRETARY'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 200A  
Washington, DC 2025

Re: SACAH Advisory Recommendations Report FY 2016

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

On behalf of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health, I am very pleased to provide you with the recommendations from our 2016 advisory process. These resulted from a 3-day meeting held in Dallas, TX, in February 2016 and a public teleconference held in May 2016. We had a quorum of committee members present, representing a balanced cross-section of the greater agricultural community. While there was a broad range of topics considered, I believe the recommendations reflect the breadth of our discussions which included:

1. One Health
  - a. Working with Traditional and Nontraditional Stakeholders
  - b. Identifying Zoonotic Diseases of Concern
  - c. Antimicrobial Resistance
2. Chronic Wasting Disease
3. Foot and Mouth Disease – Vaccine Availability
4. Comprehensive Integrated Animal Health Surveillance
5. Scrapie Program
6. Emerging Disease Response

I believe that the Committee's enclosed report captures divergent points of view and I am happy to report that consensus was achieved for each recommendation. I hope you find the recommendations helpful and that you will contact me if have any questions or need any clarification.

It's been an honor to serve as Chair of this Committee and, I'm sure I speak for my SACAH colleagues in saying: ***we are committed to the task of making U.S. agricultural the best the world has to offer.***

We expect that the USDA will take our recommendations under advisement, as appropriate, and as in the best interest of those we serve.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Wagstrom". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth Wagstrom, DVM

Chair

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