Proposed Bylaws Amendment #1—2015
Regular Winter Session

Submitted by
Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ON VETERINARY TECHNICIAN EDUCATION AND ACTIVITIES

A. Amend Bylaws ARTICLE VIII, COMMITTEES/COUNCILS/TASK FORCES, Section 3

Present and Proposed Wording

The Board of Directors shall develop and approve general policies and procedures for the
operation of all committees and task forces, except for the manual titled Accreditation Policies
and Procedures of the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities that
is established by that committee. All committees and task forces shall report to the Board of
Directors. Any report on resolutions which are pertinent to matters relating to veterinary
medicine and which have been referred by the HOD to a committee or task force shall be
submitted to the Board of Directors. If requested by the House, the Board will submit a new
resolution to the House incorporating the findings of the committee or task force.

Statement about the Bylaws Amendment

The AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities is the accrediting
agency for veterinary technology programs in the US. The Committee is committed to abide by
the best practices for accreditation and as such looks to the practices of the AVMA Council on
Education (COE); the recognition requirements for accrediting agencies of the USDE and the
Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Committee on Recognition; and the
Association of Specialized Accreditors (ASPA) Member Code of Good Practice.

The Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA COE are approved by the COE. The
authority for COE to approve its Policies and Procedures is found in ARTICLE VIII – Section 2.
Councils, I. Policies and Procedures. “The Board of Directors shall develop and approve policies
and procedures for the operation of all councils, except for the manual titled Accreditation
Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education that is established by that council.”

Recognition requirements require that agencies demonstrate independence. For example,
CHEA Eligibility Standard 9.G. states “Demonstrates independence from any parent entity, or
sponsoring entity, for the conduct of accreditation activities and determination of accreditation
status.” CHEA recognition standards requires an agency to provide evidence that it “sustains
independent authority and capacity to deploy resources in the service of its mission”.

The Association of Specialized Accreditors (ASPA) Member Code of Good Practice has the
following statement: “Exhibit integrity and professionalism in the conduct of its operations:
Maintains autonomy and integrity in governance and operations through appropriate
relationships and practices.

In addition, currently the Accreditation Standards for veterinary technology programs are
approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors at its July 2011 meeting approved
amending the process to approve changes to the COE standards so that the COE reported the
development of new standards and the revision of existing standards to the Board of Directors
and the Board of Directors no longer approved changes to the Accreditation Standards. If the
Bylaw amendment is approved by the House of Delegates the CVTEA would revise its Accreditation Policies and Procedures to require it to report any changes in the Standards of Accreditation to the Board of Directors, but would no longer be required to request approval.

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