WHEREAS, SPECIES-JUMPING ZOONOTIC pathogens such as the 2009 pandemic influenza (H1N1) virus have caused more than 65 percent of emerging infectious disease outbreaks in the past six decades; and

WHEREAS, Disease surveillance in the United States and abroad is not very effective can be improved in alerting both human and animal health officials to emerging zoonotic diseases, which are diseases that can be transmitted from other vertebrate animals to humans; and

WHEREAS, Factors such as global air travel help enable infections originating in one continent to spread rapidly across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Disease surveillance among animal and human populations, early detection of animal disease, and preventing spread of infections among and between these two groups are vital in preventing emerging diseases of zoonotic origin; and

WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine has released a comprehensive report to improve the current information gathering, distribution and sharing; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the US Departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and the Interior work with relevant private and public stakeholders, including our American Medical Association, work with the federal government and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Veterinary Medical Association to take the lead, working with global human and animal health organizations, to establish a robust, coordinated, and effective global surveillance system of zoonotic diseases in both humans and animals, with better thereby enhancing collaboration of human and animal health sectors and resulting in improved early detection and responses. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Implement accordingly at estimated cost of $14,000.