

**RESOLUTION #11—2021
Regular Annual Session**

Submitted by
Board of Directors

**REVISED POLICY ON USE OF RANDOM-SOURCE DOGS AND CATS FOR RESEARCH,
TESTING, AND EDUCATION**

RESOLVED, that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates adopt the revised the policy on Use of Random-Source Dogs and Cats for Research, Testing, and Education as noted in [attachment 1](#) (additions are underlined, deletions are ~~struck through~~).

Statement about the Resolution

The policy on the Use of Random-Source Dogs and Cats for Research, Testing, and Education was reviewed by the Animal Welfare Committee (AWC). The AWC considered impacts on the welfare of random-sourced dogs and cats utilized in scientific research and education, as well as the potential effects on veterinary students and biomedical research conducted within the United States.

The policy's overall focus remains unchanged; with an emphasis on the importance of following federal, state, and local regulations and protecting the welfare of dogs and cats used in the various realms of research, testing, and education, while ensuring the value of these activities. The changes made, albeit minor, are critical as they ensure the AVMA remains the leader on this sensitive topic, which over the long-term will promote the continuation of sound, ethical, biomedical research and the highest level of animal welfare. The minor additions also promote the following: ensure that this policy respects the current trend of USDA annually phasing out Class B dealers as a means of obtaining random-source dogs and cats, provides clarity on the process for obtaining and using random source dogs and cats, more closely aligns with the three Rs principals by encouraging more ethical sources of animals, and promotes rigor and reproducibility in animal research.

The revised policy will align with the current approach to the use of dogs and cats in research, testing, and education.

Financial Impact: None

| | Board of Directors | House Advisory Committee | Reference Committee #2 | House of Delegates |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Recommend Approval | X | X | X | X |
| Recommend Disapproval | | | | |
| Recommend Referral to... | | | | |
| No Recommendation | | | | |
| Recommend Postpone Indefinitely | | | | |

(use this space for additional narrative, if needed)