



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor  
Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian

## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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### Indiana State Veterinarian October 2024

The Indiana State Veterinarian is appointed by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) with the approval of the Governor. IC 15-17-4-1. The state veterinarian serves a term of four years and may be reappointed. IC 15-17-4-3.

#### **Qualifications:**

The Indiana State Veterinarian must:

1. Be a graduate of a recognized veterinary college;
2. Be licensed and accredited to practice veterinary medicine in Indiana; and
3. Have at least 5 years experience as a general practitioner of veterinary medicine or as a veterinary administrator.

The state veterinarian may not be a member of the Board of Animal Health. IC 15-17-4-2.

#### **Duties:**

The Indiana State Veterinarian:

1. Serves as the chief administrative officer of the Indiana Center for Animal Policy.
2. Serves as the chief administrative officer for the Board of Animal Health and performs the duties delegated by the BOAH.
3. Serves as the chief administrative officer and technical advisor for the Indiana Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) and performs the duties delegated by the BVM. IC 15-17.5-2-3; IC 15-17-4-1 and IC 15-17-4-5.

#### **The Agencies:**

##### **Indiana Center for Animal Policy**

The Indiana Center for Animal Policy is comprised of the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the Indiana Board of Veterinary Medicine. The Center is charged with protecting human and animal health and ensuring efficient delivery of animal health services and products of animal origin in Indiana by doing the following:

- (1) Developing animal policy to address Indiana's need for a healthy animal population, a safe food supply, and the provision of a diverse range of veterinary medical services.
- (2) Facilitating collaboration between the BOAH and the BVM on programs that advance animal health, animal welfare, food safety, and emergency preparedness.
- (3) Providing for joint investigations, enforcement, and other administrative functions of the BOAH and BVM.
- (4) Enhancing the ability of veterinarians and other employees of the BOAH to support the regulatory missions of the BOAH and BVM.

**Safeguarding Indiana's animals, food supply and citizens for more than 125 years.**

An equal opportunity employer and provider.

- (5) Engaging in joint outreach and education activities that increase opportunities to interface with and support the needs of veterinary practitioners, animal owners, and other stakeholders.
- (6) Safeguarding against any incompetent, dishonest, or unprincipled practice of veterinary medicine in Indiana. IC 15-17.5-2-4.

### **Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH)**

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health is comprised of eleven members who are appointed by the Governor. IC 15-17-3-2.

The BOAH has general authority over:

- (1) the prevention, detection, control, and eradication of diseases and pests affecting the health of animals within and in transit through Indiana; and
- (2) the production, manufacture, processing, and distribution of products derived from animals;

to control health hazards that may threaten the public health and welfare of the citizens of Indiana. IC 15-17-3-11.

BOAH has active programs in the following areas:

#### Animal Health

- Animal disease and pest prevention, detection, response and recovery.
- Approving biologic products used in animal disease control.
- Livestock markets and dealers licensing.
- Renderer licensing and animal carcass disposal regulation.
- Livestock brands registration.

#### Animal Care

- Establishing standards of care for livestock and poultry.
- Assisting law enforcement with animal cruelty and neglect investigations.
- Commercial dog breeders and brokers regulation.
- Pet store, animal shelter and dog rescue registration.

#### Dairy Inspection

- Establish and operate a state dairy inspection program in coordination with the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shippers. Permit and inspect dairy farms, dairy plants, transporters and related entities.

#### Meat and Poultry Inspection

- Establish and operate the state meat and poultry inspection program in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety Inspection Service.

#### Emergency Response

- BOAH cooperates with Indiana Department of Homeland Security in planning, preparing and responding to incidents involving animals. BOAH serves as the lead agency for emergency support function #11.

## **Indiana Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM)**

The Indiana board of Veterinary Medicine is comprised of 7 members appointed by the Governor. IC 25-38.1-2-1.

The BVM has general authority to promote the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of Indiana to safeguard against the incompetent, dishonest, or unprincipled practice of veterinary medicine. IC 25-38.1-1-1.

The BVM:

- Establishes qualifications for and issues licenses to practice veterinary medicine.
- Establishes qualifications and issues registrations for veterinary technicians.
- Establishes standards of professional conduct for the practice of veterinary medicine and practice of a registered veterinary technician.
- Disciplines veterinarians and veterinary technicians who violate rules.
- Investigate persons practicing veterinary medicine without a license or practicing as a veterinary technician without registration.
- Assists in the rehabilitation of impaired veterinary health care providers.