

LOUISIANA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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RE: **Expiration of Emergency Rule 2008 Gustav-1 - Temporary Louisiana Veterinary Licensure During Declared Emergency by Governor for Qualified Out of State Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians**

Date: September 26, 2008

The Governor of Louisiana issued Declaration of a Public Health Emergency, Proclamation 51 BJ 2008 (effective August 27, 2008 through September 26, 2008) with regards to impending Hurricane Gustav. Such declaration provided the Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine (LBVM) with the legal authority and obligation, as set forth in R.S. 29:769(E), as amended in the 2006 Regular Session of the LA Legislature, and Rule 309, to make the determination as whether or not there was a current need to permit temporary registration of qualified out of state veterinarians and/or veterinary technicians. The LBVM made the decision that, at that time, there were insufficient numbers of Louisiana licensed and federally employed veterinarians to address the emergency. Accordingly, Emergency Rule 2008 Gustav-1 was adopted effective August 28, 2008 through September 26, 2008. The LBVM's decision was based on information provided by Louisiana Incident Command Central (which includes designated federal, state and local relief officials, primarily the Office of the LA State Veterinarian).

At the present time, the determination has been made by the LBVM, with information from LA Incident Command Central, that there is no need for the temporary registration of out of state veterinarians and veterinary technicians beyond the termination date of Emergency Rule 2008 Gustav-1, being September 26, 2008. Therefore, any and all temporary registrations issued by the LBVM in accordance with Rule 2008 Gustav-1 will automatically terminate at midnight on September 26, 2008, CDT, and no new temporary registrations will be granted.

Thank you for your concern and inquiry. And, a special thank you is extended to those qualified out of state veterinarians and/or veterinary technicians that did apply and were granted temporary registration to assist Louisiana during this time of need. Please monitor the LBVM's website at lbvm@eatel.net for future updates.