



MVMA Resolution: Support Teaching Evolutionary Biology

Whereas the MVMA has endorsed the One Health Initiative and

Whereas the foundation of One Health is the commonality of anatomy, physiology, pathology, response to pathogens and response to similar treatment in lower animals and humans, and

Whereas this commonality is most reasonably explained by evolution from shared ancestry and

Whereas evolution is firmly based on science with corroborative evidence from multiple disciplines including geology, paleontology, embryology, genetics, physics and chemistry and

Whereas evolution is overwhelmingly accepted by the international scientific community and has been formally accepted by the National Academy of Sciences, the most prestigious science advisory board in the United States, as the most reasonable, logical and correct explanation for development of life on earth and

Whereas evolution is ongoing and relevant to veterinary and human medicine as exemplified by development of antimicrobial resistant organisms which arise through the evolutionary principles of genetics and natural selection and

Whereas evolution has practical application in treatment of disease as exemplified by selection of antibiotics by sensitivity testing and

Whereas evolution has practical application in prevention of disease as exemplified by development of influenza vaccines based on predicted genetic changes in the virus and

Whereas our increasing use and interpretation of genetic and genomic analysis in human and veterinary medicine rests firmly on a foundation of evolutionary biology,

Therefore, be it resolved that the MVMA supports and encourages education in evolutionary biology for veterinarians, physicians and biologists and that all schools of veterinary medicine should incorporate evolutionary biology and the importance of One Health into their curriculum.