

Legislative Action Coordinator Updates

The Government Relationship Committee (GRC) of AALAS has been working on the following initiatives: USDA Regulatory Reform Initiatives – the USDA wants to identify regulations that are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, inconsistent, or impose costs that exceed benefits. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed before the 2/12/18 deadline. The ultimate deadline is 7/17/18. You can find out all about this at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/07/17/2017-14920/identifying-regulatory-reform-initiatives>

FASEB in collaboration with others wrote a report on their recommendations. It can be found at <http://faseb.org/Science-Policy--Advocacy-and-Communications/Science-Policy-and-Research-Issues/Regulatory-Burden-and-Research-Administration/Reforming-Animal-Research-Regulations-Report.aspx>.

3rd Party Inspections

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is holding four in-person listening sessions to solicit public comment to aid in the development of criteria for recognizing the use of third-party inspection and certification programs as a positive factor when determining APHIS inspection frequencies at facilities licensed or registered under the Animal Welfare Act. A virtual listening session will be held by telephone on March 14.

More info can be found on the USDA's APHIS website,

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare/sa_animal_welfare_news/third-party-inspection-certification-programs.

Registration is required for the session.

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