



# KVMA

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January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
For Immediate Distribution

The Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA) is supporting the following recommendations as they align with the [Veterinary Shortage Working Group](#) final report (VSWG), which was developed in 18 months through cooperation with all Kentucky agricultural stakeholders.

1. KVMA believes establishing a [Rural Veterinary Loan Repayment program](#) in Kentucky will have an immediate impact on recently graduated veterinarians considering practicing in a rural veterinary setting.
2. Utilizing successful models from surrounding states, draft legislation is being finalized in conjunction with an application to Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF) to allow for a split funding of the loan repayment program.
3. KVMA encourages the expansion of veterinary contract seats through traditional curriculum as it has been proven to be very successful in educating high quality veterinarians.
4. The University of Kentucky, Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, Western Kentucky University and KVMA have developed [The V.E.T. Collaborative](#) and with funding, will provide veterinary students with large animal practice opportunities in our state. This Collaborative is a cost efficient and effective way of addressing the large animal/rural veterinarian shortage in Kentucky.

These recommendations outline both immediate and long-term solutions to help ease the veterinary workforce shortages and help make a positive impact across the Commonwealth's veterinary community.

Upon careful consideration,

Dr. Ben Redmon – KVMA President

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