Dear NASPHV members,

Public health continues to face a number of human outbreaks related to certain animals and it is important to catalogue the laws in each jurisdiction. During 2012 greater than 1000 persons were sickened due to contact with birds sold through mail order hatcheries, turtles with a shell length less than 4 inches, hedgehogs, and frozen feeder rodents.

To better understand state and local jurisdictional laws around the sale, exhibition and display of certain “exotic” animals, CDC has launched an important assessment. Emails with additional information and a link to the assessment tool were sent to all state public health veterinarians (SPHV)/designees for whom we had contact information. Your individual responses will be anonymous; data will only be presented publicly in aggregate form. This assessment has been reviewed and approved under OMB No. 0920-0879.

Should you have any questions, or if you are a SPHV/designee and did not receive an email and assessment link, please contact Jennifer Wright, DVM, MPH at 404-639-4749 or jgwright@cdc.gov.

Thank you,

**Jennifer Gordon Wright, DVM, MPH, DACVPM**

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