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## AVMA GHLIT to Support Members Impacted by Changes to Medical Insurance in 2014

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. – (Dec. 18, 2012) – New York Life Insurance Company (NYL), the underwriter of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Group Health and Life Insurance Trust (GHLIT) has notified the GHLIT Trustees of its intent to discontinue offering medical insurance to bona fide association plans after 2013.

The decision by NYL impacts only the GHLIT medical insurance policy. Current medical insurance will continue for GHLIT members throughout 2013, provided premiums are paid in a timely manner. Any life, disability income or other non-medical coverage will be unaffected by this change.

NYL indicated that the evolving market conditions and regulatory environment created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will ultimately prevent them from offering competitive medical insurance for association plans such as the GHLIT's. To that end, the GHLIT is working with its business partners to establish a program to help assist its medical plan participants with the transition to other medical insurance coverage effective Jan. 1, 2014.

The GHLIT and NYL will continue to offer life, disability income and other insurance products as a member benefit to AVMA members.

“For the past 56 years, the Trust has protected its members through numerous industry changes with an array of quality coverage. This will be no different,” said James H. Brandt, DVM, GHLIT Chair. “While we are saddened at the prospect of ending medical insurance as a benefit to our members, our top priority is ensuring that they do not experience any gaps in coverage.”

“The Trust understands the significance of this change and the confusion it may cause. We want to assure all our members that we remain dedicated to their protection and are working diligently to ensure that they continue to have access to the coverage they are accustomed to through the GHLIT,” said Dr. Brandt. “Members can expect to receive regular communications from us over the coming months, including progress updates and information to assist them through this transition.”

For more information, members are encouraged to contact the GHLIT at 800-621-6360 or visit the website at [www.avmaghlit.org](http://www.avmaghlit.org).



### **About AVMA GHLIT**

Since 1957, AVMA GHLIT ([www.avmaghlit.org](http://www.avmaghlit.org)) has been committed to providing insurance coverage that is right for veterinarians at every stage of their lives and careers, from veterinary school and on into retirement. They serve the veterinary profession by providing health, life, disability and related insurance services to more than 35,000 veterinarians and their families nationwide.

### **About New York Life**

New York Life Insurance Company, a Fortune 100 company founded in 1845, is the largest mutual life insurance company in the United States and one of the largest life insurers in the world. New York Life has the highest possible financial strength ratings currently awarded to any life insurer from all four of the major credit rating agencies: A.M. Best (A++), Fitch (AAA), Moody's Investors Service (Aaa), Standard & Poor's (AA+). Headquartered in New York City, New York Life's family of companies offers life insurance, retirement income, investments and long-term care insurance. New York Life Investments provides institutional asset management and retirement plan services. Other New York Life affiliates provide an array of securities products and services, as well as retail mutual funds. Please visit New York Life's Web site at [www.newyorklife.com](http://www.newyorklife.com) for more information.

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