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## Pendleton Round-Up Statement on Oregon Senate Bill 835

Oregon Senate Bill 835 has come to the attention of the Pendleton Round-Up Association. Our volunteers annually host nearly 50,000 guests with an estimated \$40-50 million economic impact. Celebrating 103 years of western tradition, not many state events have developed more truly recognizable icons, for Oregon, than our authentic presentation of cowboys and Indians. Year 'round we celebrate a vibrant horse culture and animal wellness is very important to us.

We appreciate Senator Bill Hansell's language to protect our historic western heritage by affirming the right to conduct rodeos in Oregon and documenting that right with this legislation. The Pendleton Round-Up has never participated in "horse tripping" which seems to be the focus this bill. However, the additional language "<u>or intentionally ropes or lassos the legs of an equine</u>" goes far beyond "tripping" by prohibiting the simple act of roping a horse's legs.

We believe prohibiting the roping of a horse's legs should not be criminalized and we support an amendment to strike that language in this bill.

Sincerely,

Tim Hawkins, President Pendleton Round-Up Association



