

Submitter: B V
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB559

I strongly oppose this bill.

2018 SOS report

(<http://records.sos.state.or.us/ORSOSWebDrawer/Recordpdf/6380203>), a basis for the bill, is outdated. Numerous evidence has shown that the drug overdose deaths are mostly caused by illicit, not prescription drugs. As an example, on page 4 of the report, Figure 2 note states that data "does not differentiate between illicit vs. legal" which makes the data useless. There are numerous other erroneous or one-sided statements throughout the report.

Opioid crisis continues despite significant reduction in opioid prescribing (reduction to the point that current pain management methods are critically inadequate). Requiring veterinarians to participate in PDMP is not a solution to opioid crisis, it is unnecessary burden on already understaffed practices and nothing but an added control with more harm than good. It will seriously impact pet care. It has potential to obfuscate PDMP data and result in inaccurate reporting.

Veterinary practice is regulated, and veterinarians educated to prescribe what is needed for animals. Humans are not their responsibility. Better approach would be looking into the reasons why a pet owner may misuse their pet medication, and act accordingly.

To conclude; in my opinion, requiring veterinarians to use PDMP will adversely affect pet care, causing more work, increasing cost and likely break the trust between the veterinarian and a pet owner. The gain to PDMP is insignificant at best - more data of dubious quality, and minimal impact on opioid crisis.