

Requested by Senator NASH

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 976**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “care;” delete the rest of the
2 line and insert “creating new provisions; amending ORS 596.321 and 686.040;
3 and declaring an emergency.”.

4 Delete lines 4 through 28 and delete page 2 and insert:

5 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 686.040, as amended by section 10, chapter 30, Oregon
6 Laws 2024, is amended to read:

7 “686.040. (1) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to **the following:**

8 **“(a)** Commissioned veterinary officers of the United States Army, or those
9 in the employ of other United States Government agencies while engaged in
10 their official capacity, unless they enter into a private practice.

11 **“(b) An individual who has received training to verify whether cat-**
12 **tle are pregnant and is performing pregnancy verification services on**
13 **cattle within the scope of the individual’s training.**

14 “(2) Nothing in ORS 167.322 or 686.020 (1)(a) shall be so construed as to
15 prevent any person or the agent or employee of the person from practicing
16 veterinary medicine and surgery or dentistry in a humane manner on any
17 animal belonging to the person, agent or employee or for gratuitous services
18 or from dehorning and vaccinating cattle for the person, agent or employee.

19 “(3) Nothing in ORS 686.020 (1)(a) shall be so construed as to prevent the
20 selling of veterinary remedies and instruments by a licensed pharmacist at
21 the regular place of business of the licensed pharmacist.

1 “(4) A practitioner of allied health methods may practice that method on
2 animals without violating ORS 686.020 (1)(a), as long as the practice is in
3 conformance with laws and rules governing the practitioner’s practice and
4 the practice is upon referral from a licensed veterinarian for treatment or
5 therapy specified by the veterinarian.

6 “(5) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to the lay testing of poultry by the
7 whole blood agglutination test.

8 “(6) A certified euthanasia technician holding an active, current certifi-
9 cate may inject sodium pentobarbital, sedative and analgesic medications
10 and any other euthanasia substance approved by the Oregon State Veterinary
11 Medical Examining Board without violating ORS 686.020 (1)(a).

12 “(7) The board by rule may specify circumstances under which unlicensed
13 persons may give vaccinations, administer an anesthetic or otherwise assist
14 in the practice of veterinary medicine.

15 “(8) Any individual licensed as a veterinarian in another state may be
16 used in consultation in this state with a person licensed to practice
17 veterinary medicine in this state provided the consultation does not exceed
18 30 days in any 365 consecutive days.

19 “(9) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to authorized representatives of the
20 State Department of Agriculture in the discharge of any duty authorized by
21 the department.

22 “(10) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to an unlicensed representative
23 of a livestock association, cow-testing association, or poultry association
24 who, for the benefit of the association, takes blood samples for laboratory
25 tests for the diagnosis of livestock or poultry diseases, but only if this person
26 has received authorization from the State Department of Agriculture fol-
27 lowing a written request to the department.

28 “(11) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to persons permitted by the State
29 Department of Fish and Wildlife to rehabilitate orphaned, sick or injured
30 wildlife, as defined in ORS 496.004, for the purpose of restoring the animals

1 to the wild.

2 “(12) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to students, agents or employees
3 of public or private educational or medical research institutions involved in
4 educational or research activities under the auspices of those institutions.

5 “(13) ORS 686.020 (1)(a) does not apply to:

6 “(a) Veterinarians employed by Oregon State University;

7 “(b) Instructors of veterinary courses; or

8 “(c) Students of veterinary science who participate in the diagnosis and
9 treatment of animals if the students:

10 “(A) Are participating in the diagnosis and treatment of animals while
11 engaged in an educational program approved by the board or a college of
12 veterinary medicine accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Associ-
13 ation; and

14 “(B) Are under the direct supervision of an Oregon licensed veterinarian
15 or a veterinarian approved by the board or Oregon State University to su-
16 pervise students in the educational program.

17 **“(14) The State Department of Agriculture shall by rule specify**
18 **circumstances under which unlicensed persons may engage in activ-**
19 **ities described in subsection (1)(b) of this section.**

20 **“(15) The department shall inform individuals authorized to verify**
21 **whether cattle are pregnant of the requirement to report livestock**
22 **diseases as required under ORS 596.321.**

23 **“SECTION 2.** ORS 596.321 is amended to read:

24 “596.321. (1) The State Department of Agriculture shall enact rules and
25 regulations:

26 “(a) Containing a list of livestock diseases that must be reported to the
27 department by any person practicing veterinary medicine in this state.

28 “(b) Concerning the time and manner of reporting livestock diseases and
29 any other information considered reasonably necessary by the department.

30 “(c) Regarding the time and manner of vaccinating female cattle against

1 brucellosis.

2 “(2) Any person practicing veterinary medicine in this state, having
3 knowledge of the existence of any livestock disease listed pursuant to sub-
4 section (1) of this section, shall immediately report the disease to the de-
5 partment in the manner provided by rule or regulation.

6 “(3) For the purposes of this section, ‘practicing veterinary medi-
7 cine’ includes individuals authorized to verify whether cattle are
8 pregnant under ORS 686.040 (1)(b).

9 “**SECTION 3.** The amendments to ORS 596.321 and 686.040 by
10 sections 1 and 2 of this 2025 Act become operative on January 1, 2026.

11 “**SECTION 4.** (1) The Task Force on Equine Dentistry is established.

12 “(2) The task force consists of five members appointed by the Di-
13 rector of Agriculture as follows:

14 “(a) Two members who represent statewide agriculture or livestock
15 organizations.

16 “(b) One member who represents a statewide veterinarian organ-
17 ization.

18 “(c) One member who represents the State Department of Agricul-
19 ture.

20 “(d) One member who is the State Veterinarian, or the State
21 Veterinarian’s designee.

22 “(3) The task force shall identify ways to provide greater access to
23 equine dentistry throughout Oregon.

24 “(4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a
25 quorum for the transaction of business.

26 “(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a
27 majority of the members of the task force.

28 “(6) The Director of Agriculture shall select one member of the task
29 force to serve as chairperson and another to serve as vice chairperson,
30 for the terms and with the duties and powers necessary for the per-

1 **formance of the functions of the offices as the director determines.**

2 **“(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority**
3 **shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.**

4 **“(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the**
5 **call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task**
6 **force.**

7 **“(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of**
8 **the task force.**

9 **“(10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided**
10 **in ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation to**
11 **an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to agricul-**
12 **ture no later than December 15, 2025.**

13 **“(11) The State Department of Agriculture shall provide staff sup-**
14 **port to the task force.**

15 **“(12) Members of the task force serve as volunteers on the task**
16 **force and, unless they are qualified members, as defined in ORS**
17 **292.495, are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for ex-**
18 **penses.**

19 **“(13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111,**
20 **are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties**
21 **of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to**
22 **confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the**
23 **task force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

24 **“(14) All appointments to the task force made under subsection (2)**
25 **of this section must be completed not more than 60 days after the ef-**
26 **fective date of this 2025 Act.**

27 **“SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2025 Act is repealed on December 31,**
28 **2026.**

29 **“SECTION 6. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate**
30 **preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is**

1 **declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.”.**

2
