

COLUMBIA COUNTY

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January 20, 2024

RE: HB 2167

To:

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

Dear Co-Chair Representative Helm, Co-Chair Representative Owens and Members of the Committee:

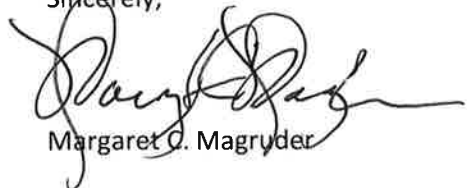
Agriculture continues to be one of Oregon's leading industries. We are well known for our high quality products which range from grass seed, wheat, alfalfa hay, wine grapes and hazel nuts to beef, dairy and lamb products which appear on grocery shelves across the country and some are found around the world!

Oregon State University plays a significant role in providing the education and research required to keep Oregon agriculture on the cutting edge of production. The OSU Veterinary School was established by the Oregon Legislature in 1975 and in 1979 Magruder Hall was built as a veterinary teaching facility. As the daughter of a veterinarian, an Oregonian who received his education at Iowa State University, and the sister of the Oregon Legislator Dick Magruder who spearheaded the establishment of the OSU Veterinary School and for which Magruder Hall was named and as a lifetime farmer I am a very strong supporter of the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine.

In order to maintain high quality products and to combat the diseases that threaten both our livestock, our wildlife, and human health we need to address the issues of a shortage of practicing veterinarians, especially for large animals, and to update facilities and equipment that are utilized in disease diagnostics. The education provided by OSU is a pathway to well-paid jobs for the graduates.

I urge you to support the funding request for the OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital and the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab to insure the training of future veterinarians for both large and small animals and to assure excellence in our advanced diagnostics in the battle against health threats to both animals and humans.

Sincerely,



Margaret C. Magruder