

Submitter: Sarah Asby

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2167

Ken Helm and Mark Owens

RE: House Bill 2167

Dear Ken and Mark

I would like to ask that HB 2167 which requests \$10 million for the Louis Bates Acheson Veterinary Teaching Hospital and 3.5 million for the veterinary diagnostic lab be approved and passed. The teaching hospital is a valuable Oregon resource and needs to be supported financially by the state of Oregon.

There is a shortage of veterinarians in the state which is impacting the life of animals in the state. I recently was turned away at a couple of vet clinics because of a shortage of veterinarians. Luckily I did not have an animal emergency but would have been a problem if there had been one since I just moved to a new town. I also experienced the effect of the veterinarian shortage when a manager of a small barn. I had a horse with a critical health emergency and could not find a local vet to help because they were overwhelmed with calls. The owner was able to eventually get the horse to the veterinary school but was too late.

I personally had a recent experience with the Louis Bates Acheson veterinary School with one of my horses. He had a severe colic and my local veterinarian recommended the vet school. Fortunately he got there in time and was treated immediately and recovered. The professionalism was amazing. Students were able to monitor him for 24 hours. The student assigned to my horse when I visited was planning to make a career in research but was able to experience the different areas where a vet could have a career.

Please support this valuable state resource with appropriate state funding.

Sincerely

Sarah Asby