

Submitter: Blake Miller

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2167

Dear Co-Chairs Representative Ken Helm and Representative Mark Owens,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for HB 2167, which provides critical funding to the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine. As the owner of a mobile veterinary practice specializing in large animal care, I see firsthand how important it is to support the training and development of veterinarians, especially those focusing on large and food animal medicine.

My practice serves a wide variety of livestock, including goats, sheep, llamas, alpacas, and cattle, many of which are in rural areas where veterinary services are essential for the health of animals and the success of agricultural operations. Oregon's agricultural economy is a cornerstone of our state, and providing robust support for veterinary education and diagnostic resources will ensure this sector continues to thrive.

I have the privilege of mentoring veterinary students through hands-on experience in my practice. Many of these students are passionate about large animal medicine but face challenges as they pursue careers in this field, particularly in rural communities. The funding provided by HB 2167 would further enhance the opportunities for these students, encouraging them to fill vital roles in food animal care, public health, and disease prevention.

The proposed funding for the OSU veterinary teaching hospital and the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) will help ensure students have access to the best training and diagnostic tools. The OVDL's work is crucial in identifying and responding to emerging diseases that impact both animals and humans. These resources are invaluable not only to practicing veterinarians like me but also to the students who are learning to be the next generation of leaders in veterinary medicine.

This investment will build on Oregon State University's strengths, enabling the College of Veterinary Medicine to continue producing highly skilled veterinarians equipped to meet the needs of our state. By supporting this funding, you will help inspire more students to pursue careers in large animal medicine, addressing current gaps in service and ensuring long-term support for Oregon's agricultural and rural communities.

Thank you for considering this important legislation, and I urge you to support HB

2167 to advance veterinary medicine and public health in Oregon.

Sincerely,  
Blake H. Miller, DVM  
Owner, Northwest Mobile Vet  
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