

Submitter: Camille Rushanaedy

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2167

Dear Representatives Ken Helm and Mark Owens,

My name is Camille Rushanaedy and I am writing in support of HB2167. I was born and raised in Portland, Oregon and resided primarily in Washington County. I am currently a veterinary student out-of-state in California with plans to return to Oregon to practice.

I want to express my support for HB2167 and urge you both to support this measure as well. HB2167 will provide critical funding to Oregon State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Veterinary Diagnostic Lab to address needs in veterinary diagnostics and veterinarian shortages in Oregon counties Douglas, Sherman, Tillamook, Klamath, Crook and Umatilla. The Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is Oregon's only laboratory positioned to address diseases of concern to Oregon's animals, public, and environment; which we are currently experiencing with the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Its ability to address these concerns is gravely threatened by chronic insufficient funding and badly outdated facilities.

The requested \$10 million for the Lois Bates Acheson Veterinary Teaching Hospital and \$3.5 million for the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Lab are necessary to continue protecting public and animal health through disease surveillance, diagnosis, and the training of future veterinarians.

Thank you,
Camille Rushanaedy