

Chairman Golden and members of the committee,

I am writing to you today to express my support of SB 976. As an Oregon horse owner SB 976 is extremely important to me and the health of my horse.

Like many other states Oregon is facing a serious crisis in the lack of available large animal veterinarians. This is making access to care very difficult while making veterinary care virtually unaffordable.

Passage of SB 976 would allow horse owners the right to choose from another group of professionals who are fully competent and more than qualified to provide dental care for our horses. In fact, many horse owners already prefer using an Equine Dentist over their Veterinarian due to the level of dental focused education they received versus Veterinarians and the specialized skill set they spent years focusing on that makes them so thorough and proficient at what they do.

Please pass SB 976, there are not enough Veterinarians to handle the workload and horses are suffering as a result.

Best regards,

Jacob Richard
Scio, OR