

Submitter: Jessica Frischman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Measure,

Appointment or Topic: SB976

Dear Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Jessica Frischman and I am a mixed animal practitioner in Eastern Oregon. I am in strong opposition to Senate Bill 976.

Equine dentistry requires extensive training in anatomy, pain management, anesthesia, animal behavior and antimicrobials. This level in training far exceeds a non-specified "certificate" allowing a lay person to perform dentistry. The safe handling, prescribing and administration of sedatives and opioids is a strong concern for the welfare of animals. If a person is not correctly trained they can cause serious harm to the patient but also brings the question if these medications and drugs are being appropriately circulated.

Bovine pregnancy confirmation is a service that also requires extensive training not just in technique but also in bovine anatomy, hormone cycles, antimicrobials and calving management. During this time a veterinary professional also establishes a VCPR with the client as this time is also used to consult on safe and humane cattle handling practices, nutrition, vaccine protocols and appropriate use of antibiotics. Taking away this vital link between the veterinarian and producer not only cripples the relationship and the ability to maintain a valid VCPR but also reduces contact for animal welfare concerns.

This also raises concern of accountability. As it stands there is the OVMA governing veterinarians and holding them to set standards and providing protection to animal owners in the event of malpractice. Who will be responsible for malpractice by these lay people? Who will certify them and establish a standard education to ensure they are all trained equally to perform these services?

I strongly urge you to vote NO on Bill 976.

Thank you for your time,

Jessica Frischman, DVM