

Submitter: Creigh Lincoln  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB976

My Name is Creigh Lincoln and I am writing in opposition to SB976.

I have been a Mixed animal veterinarian in Hermiston, Oregon for 35 years. My practice provides services for a significant population of cattle and horses in our area. I have seen a number fly by night, non veterinarians over the years offering to provide equine dentistry services. It has been my experience that the care they provide is below the standards expected of a veterinarian. In my opinion, a proper, safe equine dentistry cannot be performed without appropriate sedation which lay dentists are prohibited from administering, although there have been those that have illegally obtained prescription sedatives. Veterinarians are trained and licensed to provide these services.

The time I spend with my ranch clients performing pregnancy exams is vital. It allows me the opportunity to assess herd health, discuss an concerns my clients may have and design appropriate management recommendations. Bovine pregnancy evaluations and equine dental examinations allow us to maintain a veterinary client patient relationship which is required to dispense or write prescriptions for pharmaceuticals. This has become more important since all antibiotics are now considered prescription drugs.

If in fact this bill is meant to address a large animal veterinary shortage, it is actually doing the opposite. Removing the veterinarian from these important services will, in fact, hinder our ability to provide quality care to our clients. This bill will do nothing to attract new veterinarians into large animal practice.

Thank you for allowing me to present my opinion,

Creigh Lincoln DVM