

Submitter: Jacquelyn Beyerlein  
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,

I am an equine veterinarian practicing in Oregon serving the Willamette Valley. I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed S.B. 976 bill, as it would severely hinder the welfare of horses.

This bill would allow individuals without veterinary licenses to perform equine dentistry and pregnancy evaluations in cattle with undefined training or certification programs. These procedures require medical decision-making that, if performed incorrectly, can cause great harm. I've personally seen harm done to horses by these "equine dentists", including chronic pain, difficulty eating, and severe weight loss.

In addition, SB 976 will undermine the Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) and further hinder access to quality veterinary care. Veterinarians do not simply diagnose pregnancy or float teeth alone. We evaluate the entire animal, provide pain management as needed, and educate owners on individualized care of their animals.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the implications of this bill on the health and welfare of animals in Oregon.

Sincerely,  
Jacquelyn Beyerlein, DVM, CVA