

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

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed S.B. 976 bill. As an equine veterinarian, I have serious concerns about the repercussions this bill would have for horse welfare. Non-veterinarian dentistry is an unregulated industry, and the quality of the education these laypeople receive is variable at best. In our practice, we are regularly called out to see horses whose mouths have been injured by overly aggressive lay dentists. We have also dealt with prolonged side effects of improperly administered sedation.

Current law requires that sedation be given by a licensed veterinarian, and this bill does not change that requirement. This means that lay dentists would be either working without sedation - which is both cruel to the horse, and makes it impossible to do a thorough job of dentistry - or giving sedation illegally. Sedation, while common, is not without risks and a non-veterinarian is not equipped to address side effects or adverse reactions.

Please consider the implications for the horse's welfare. S.B. 976 puts horse health at risk - please vote no.

Sincerely,
Dr Sera Moran, DVM
Cascadia Equine Veterinary Clinic
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