

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

To our Oregon legislators:

I strongly urge that this measure be voted down. Allowing practitioners with just a few weeks of training to perform dental work on horses professionally works counter to our years and years of data and development in horse dental care. Lack of regulation in this field will provide no accountability and lead horse owners to think that an equine dentist is similar to a thoroughly trained human dentist, or a veterinarian.

I have been so glad to see the shoving of a rasp in a horse's mouth go by the wayside. It can be painful for the horse physically and mentally, and works with very little information on the edges present within the mouth. I have been very happy to see horses sedated, and the veterinarian able to check the edges by looking and feeling within the mouth safely. My vet has been able help my horses through issues that would not have been caught with the old rasping method.

Allowing unregulated equine 'dentists' to perform not only takes us back to the days of rasping, but also back to some of the quacks that performed in the infancy of the veterinarian profession. Don't throw us back 100 years!

We pride ourselves on compassionate care of our animals. This bill is going the wrong way! It will cause more pain and suffering, and more confusion. I repeat.. please vote no on this poorly conceived measure!