

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

To whom it may concern,

I am a fellow horse owner and work in the equine veterinary field. I would like the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife to understand why, as a fellow horse owner, the idea of allowing non- veterinarians to perform dentistry should be opposed. For example, how is the individual performing the dentistry supposed to help a horse that may have a reaction to the sedatives that they use? Sedation is needed when performing a dental on a horse because most horses will not allow you open their mouths a short period of time, let alone for a hour during the procedure/cleaning.

If the horse has an reaction to the sedation, the individual does not have access to the necessary measure to help them. I personally have a horse that has a heart murmur who is an increased risk with any sedation or procedure. But if I didn't know that and something happened to her during the sedation administration and the individual couldn't help her at that time of event, it could result in death. How would you feel if a non licensed dentist was going to do dental work on you but could only do that and something happened to you while having an extraction or cleaning? You have an reaction to the sedative? They find something else? They give you sedatives that you know you are allergic to but they don't? Its the same for equines. As veterinarians, we have access to their medical history, we know what they can and can not be given. This is something that should not be taken lightly. I really want you to think about the risks involved with allowing this bill to pass. How many horses have an increased risk of something happening to them and not having a medical professional their to help them.

Its the same risk for allowing non- veterinarians to preg check cattle. What if something is wrong with that heifer? The fetus? Can that person help them with the necessary medical questions that an owner may ask them? What about if they say their pregnant and then turns out they aren't but an owner has spent a lot of money in having that heifer bred? It's not something that just anyone should be able to do. Would you allow just anyone to see if you were pregnant? No, you would want a reliable doctor to be the one doing so. You tend to have questions involving your baby, what if an owner does too and that non - veterinarian cant answer them or go over risks?

Please don't allow this bill to pass, its not worth the safety and health of the horse during a dental procedure and its not worth the risk to the cattle when preg checking them.

There are so many other factors involved with these types of procedure. Only a

licensed veterinarian should be allowed to do them.

Thank you.