

February 3, 2015 Oregon Veterinary Medical Association  
House Bill 2474



Dear Chair Witt, Vice Chairs and Committee Members:

The Oregon Veterinary Medical Association participated in a work group to discuss the merits of what has become House Bill 2474 and we generally agree with the intent of the legislation. We understand the licensing board's need to have oversight over facilities, both those owned or not owned by a licensed veterinarian. We would like to see this bill move forward, but only with a few important changes.

Suggested changes:

Section 1, (4) notes that the Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board may not define "veterinary facility" to include any establishment operated by a governmental or not-for-profit organization. There was agreement with the work group – which was convened by the OVMEB – to not exclude a not-for-profit organization under this definition.

We understand that the OVMEB is seeking an amendment to change the language to only exempt a governmental organization. We agree with the suggested change but are waiting to see the language until we can pledge full support.

We also will be bringing an amendment that requires the OVMEB to convene a rule advisory committee to discuss and recommend language for the rules that are being proposed in Section 3 of the bill. Although we have been represented during the two meetings of the work group, House Bill 2474 is a substantial change that we believe warrants special attention and discussion by those varied facilities providing medical services to animals across our State.

With this in mind, we ask that the committee not move the bill while we draft the amendment and discuss it with the OVMEB and our rural, urban and non-profit provider partners.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Tom*

Tom Keck, DVM  
Representing OVMA