



## **OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **SB 255 - Vet Product Registration Fee**

**Presented to  
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
March 2, 2015**

#### **Description**

Senate Bill 255 proposes increasing the statutory cap on vet product registration fees from \$75 to \$150. The statutory cap increase will help the Animal Health Program (AHP) maintain current service levels.

#### **Background**

The AHP provides critical services to Oregon's \$1.523 billion cattle and dairy industries.

- Keeps resident animals healthy and ensures that healthy animals are entering and leaving the state.
- Issues import permits and processes certificates of veterinary inspection.
- Monitors and manages animal movement.
- Investigates and traces disease reports and outbreaks.
- Implements appropriate disease control measures.
- Collaborates with other agencies and organizations including the United States Department of Agriculture, Oregon State University, public health officials, wildlife officials and private producers.

These services not only help the agriculture and food industry prevent economic losses due to diseased animals, they also keep domestic and international trade moving by assuring our trade partners that effective disease prevention and response measures are in place. This is a critical service as Oregon's livestock producers work to expand domestic and international markets for meat, dairy and egg products.

#### **Recent Example of Program Work**

The Animal Health Program has played a lead role in the state and federal response to the avian influenza detected in Douglas County, Oregon in December 2014 and Deschutes County in February 2015. A response effort has worked to contain avian influenza.

- Oregon's state veterinarian is the co-incident commander together with USDA leadership.
- The AHP set up a Joint Information Center (JIC) to coordinate communication with agencies, stakeholders, and the public.
- The AHP has kept in close communication with Oregon's commercial egg and fryer producers, served as Oregon's point of contact with USDA which is the lead on responding to the detection, and also worked with communications officers in notifying backyard and free-range growers about key strategies to keep backyard and free-range animals healthy.

- The program has worked with state, federal, and county agencies to create and update Oregon's avian influenza response plan. Having this plan in place gave all agencies involved immediate guidance on each organization's responsibilities and the chain of communication.
- Oregon has also coordinated closely with Idaho in response to avian influenza detected in Parma, Idaho, just east of the Oregon border.

The Animal Health Program is currently supported with a mix of General Fund, Other Funds, and Federal Funds. Veterinary products registration fees and Animal Health Laboratory fees are the Other Fund sources for the Animal Health Program. The vet products registration fee was created in the 1990s. The animal health and veterinary industry came together and built the concept of animal remedy product registration as a tool to support the work of the State Veterinarian's Office.

Animal remedy means any product used to prevent, inhibit, or cure illness or enhance or protect the health or wellbeing of animals. The program registers approximately 3000 products annually. The statutory cap on vet product registrations has been at the \$75 level since 2003.

Veterinary product companies register products with ODA to gain market access. Products are not allowed to be offered for sale if they are not registered (ORS 596.095, 596.100, 596.105, and 596.995). ODA conducts inspections in the market to identify unregistered animal remedy products.

Some examples of veterinary products include joint mobility supplements for pets and horses, senior diets formulated with methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) or chondroitin sulfate (unapproved feed ingredients), and supplements that improve hoof, coat, or digestive health. There are even products on the market designed to maintain cat and dog brain health as they age, and plug-in pheromones and other calming treatments for companion animals. Veterinary products may be purchased at the grocery store, the pet store, online, local feed store or the producer's local Dairy Route truck.

### **Need for the proposed legislation**

This bill raises the statutory cap on vet products registration fees from \$75 to a maximum of \$150. It will allow ODA to go through rulemaking and increase fees through changes in administrative rule as needed to support the Other Funds current service of the program. At its maximum the concept would raise an additional \$225,000 per year in revenue.

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