

OREGON FEED AND GRAIN ASSOCIATION, INC.



Dear Member of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

The Oregon Feed and Grain Association appreciates the opportunity to provide our position on House Bill 2598 being heard before the committee today. The OFGA was established in 1939 to further the legitimate interests of the feed, seed, grain, fertilizer and allied suppliers in the state of Oregon and members outside the state. The association's goal is to maintain the highest standards of integrity, ethics, loyalty, credibility, quality, services and programs sustaining cooperation between its members to better the feed and livestock industries in the state.

Providing high quality and safe livestock feed is a goal of every OFGA member. We have to abide by both state and federal regulation of the feed industry. In the situation of the use and regulation of antibiotics in livestock feed, the federal government through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has the authority to approve and control the use of these products. The FDA is currently implementing a process to further enhance the regulatory oversight of antibiotics that are importance to human medicine by requiring them all to be Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) drugs. This means in order to be used in livestock feed, they will need to follow the VFD regulations for which our feed mills will need to follow. FDA is expected to issue the final VFD regulations this spring with the changes implemented by the end of 2016.

The OFGA is opposed to the bill as it believes the regulation of these products are best handled by our federal government so there is uniformity of the regulation across all of the U.S. We encourage you to oppose this bill in its current form.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy R. Odvody". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

Troy R. Odvody, President
Oregon Feed and Grain Association