

Dear Senator Prozanski,

I am writing you to inform you of the harm Senate Bill 723, if passed as is, will do to the Sporting Dog industry in our state. I am a retired veterinarian and current President of the Greater Pacific NW Hunt Test Retriever Club and am writing to you in both these capacities.

SB 723 as currently written would eliminate all Hunt Tests, Field Trials, and Pointing Dog associations activities in Oregon. It would also restrict how we could train our dogs. These activities are enjoyed annually by hundreds of participants and thousands of dogs.

The human/animal bond between owner/trainer and his/her dog is special. The mental health benefit of this bond has been shown scientifically to be significant. Eliminating this sport would have a material negative social effect by reducing the time spent training and competing with our dogs.

The negative economic impact of this bill would be significant. There are millions of dollars spent annually and thousands of people employed in the sporting dog industry. Bring that down to our state level, every participant of the above mentioned activities owns an estimated 5,000.00 to 8,000.00 dollars of specialized training equipment. Add to that the fact that many participants own special transport vehicles that cost anywhere from 10,000.00 to 100,000.00 dollars.

Additional economic impact will occur what the loss of money spent traveling to events. Fuel, motels, camping at event sites, meals, entry fees, and other miscellaneous costs easily add up to 600 to 700 dollars per weekend event per person. On average, participants compete in 8-10 events per year. Professional trainers often compete every weekend and spend significantly more money in all these areas. Oregon hosts dozens of these weekend events per year when taking into account all the retriever and pointing associations in Oregon.

National events are held annually throughout the United States. Depending on the distance traveled to a national event, each participant will spend between 4,000 and 10,000 dollars for this single two week event. There are many different hunt test, field trial, and pointing dog national associations that sponsor these events. AKC, MNRC, MARC, NAHRA, HRC, NARC, plus all the national pointing dog associations are involved in this sport.

In 2018, Roseburg, Oregon hosted the AKC Master National Retriever Club national event. The economic benefit to the State of Oregon as estimated by the President of the AKC Master National Committee was between 3.0 and 5.0 million dollars.

The National Amateur Retriever Club also held its national competition in Roseburg, Oregon in 2018. The estimate benefit to our state from that event was between 2.0 and 3.0 million dollars. The National Amateur Retriever Club is scheduled to return to Oregon in 2022 for their national event. They will reschedule to another state if this legislation passes.

The birds used in our competition and training programs are pen raised for this purpose, although by definition of Oregon Administrative Rule 057 of Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, they are considered "wild birds".

In summary, this bill if passed as written, will have a significant economic impact to Oregon. In addition, hundreds of dog owners and handlers, both amateur and professional, and thousands of dogs will be

adversely affected. On behalf of myself and hundreds of others in this sport, I ask you to not let this bill become law.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jerry Orlando, DVM
President, Greater Pacific Hunt Test Club