

Submitter: Jorge Vanegas

On Behalf of Committee: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB976

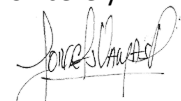
Dear Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jorge Vanegas and I am licensed veterinarian and faculty member at the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine. I have been practicing veterinary medicine in the United States since 2005 primarily working in the areas of food animal medicine and production with special emphasis in Dairy Cattle.

I strongly oppose to SB976 measure. Routine pregnancy examination in cattle is a diagnostic technique that not only allows a veterinarian to determine the pregnancy status of an animal but allows this professional to assess at the herd level, the reproductive efficiency of a group of cattle under specific management conditions. It is a critical diagnostic tool that must be completed routinely in an efficient, safely manner and with a clear understanding of the reproductive physiology of cattle in order to respond to the challenges and decisions to be made when cows are found to be open (non- pregnant) during the examination. Knowledge that many lay people lack in order to provide the best solutions. In today's dairy and beef herd operations these routine farm visits are the foundation for the development and maintenance of a Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR). Such relationship is an integral part of veterinary oversight of animal health, proper drug use, client-worker education, herd productivity, animal welfare and public health. Measure SB976 will significantly impact the ability of many veterinarians to provide a comprehensive and professional overview of the management of cattle operations and it will further impact the ability for beef and dairy producers from multiple herd sizes to find routine veterinary support especially in areas of the State where there is already a significant deficiency of veterinary professionals. As an educator of future large animal veterinarians, I focus my teaching in making my students to understand that the value they can provide to producers it is not only on performing a pregnancy diagnosis in cattle but also to guide them on how to use the clinical knowledge and the clinical skills tools that the veterinary curriculum teaches them in order to properly manage the animal health and productivity of their livestock clients.

I encourage the committee to listen the feed back and comments on this matter from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners and the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association and I urge to vote NO on measure SB 976

Sincerely



Jorge Vanegas, DVM, MPVM
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Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine
Oregon State University