

2/22/25

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

My name is Tristin Morgan DVM, I am a veterinarian in White City, Oregon. I do NOT support SB 976.

This legislation is harmful to my patients and my clients. This bill is harmful to animal health and welfare. These training courses for non-licensed individuals are not standardized or vetted, unlike the accreditation standards for veterinary medicine.

My concerns center around the equine dentistry part of this bill. Equine dentistry has come a long way in 20 years. Sedation is required for an adequate equine dental, long gone are the days of using hand tools to file down sharp points. Equine Dentistry is so much more than this. My clients solidify our veterinary-client-patient relationship with yearly dentistry. Equine dentistry is a large part of my practice that I enjoy. As a veterinarian licensed in the state of Oregon, I am required to submit 30 hours of continuing education every other year. A large percentage of these hours are spent learning new techniques in equine dentistry from Veterinary diplomats in equine dentistry. I am concerned with how this bill will have an effect on my patients as I personally have seen the detrimental effects first hand of what people with improper training and lack of education can do to a horse's mouth. Several have been left unable to eat after being touched by these so called trained "equine dentists" and had to be euthanized. The real doctors for dentistry happen to be veterinarians who can have knowledge to sedate the horses to perform equine dentistry and the continued knowledge earned yearly with continuing education after 8 or more years of education on the path to their DVM. We also have individuals specializing in equine dentistry who are boarded specialists in the field. Not trained in one of these so called "dental schools". Please join me, the OVMA and the AAEP in our continuing advances in equine welfare with a NO on SB 976.

Thank you for your time, I am very concerned for the welfare of animals and patients in my veterinary practice and urge you to vote NO on this legislation.

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