

Submitter: Morgan Kromm
On Behalf Of: Oregon CattleWomen
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1539
Topic:

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and members of the committee,

My name is Morgan Kromm, and I am an Oregon cattle producer and the current President of the Oregon CattleWomen. I am writing in support of SB 1539.

SB 1539 provides a narrow, clearly defined clarification of Oregon law, allowing individuals who have received training to verify pregnancy in cattle to perform that task without holding a veterinary license. This bill reflects standard livestock management practices that are already safely and responsibly used on ranches across Oregon.

As a cattle producer, I have personally received training and have experience verifying pregnancy status in cattle as part of routine herd management. When performed within the scope of training, pregnancy verification is a humane, low-risk practice that supports animal welfare and timely management decisions. SB 1539 appropriately limits this allowance to pregnancy verification only and does not expand unlicensed veterinary practice beyond that specific activity.

Pregnancy verification is a critical tool for herd health, nutrition planning, and animal welfare. Delays in pregnancy checking, especially during narrow seasonal windows, can result in overcrowding, mismanaged feed resources, and unnecessary stress on livestock. In many rural areas of Oregon, access to veterinary services can be limited by distance and availability, making timely pregnancy verification challenging without trained assistance.

Importantly, SB 1539 does not diminish the role of licensed veterinarians. Veterinarians remain essential for diagnosis, treatment, herd health planning, and emergency care. This bill simply recognizes that trained individuals can safely perform a specific management task that supports both veterinarians and producers.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to support SB 1539. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Morgan Kromm