

Talking Points on Veterinary Equine Dentistry. SB 347 Please oppose

- Equine Dental exam and procedures cannot be done completely and humanely without tranquilization/sedation utilizing a full-mouthed dental speculum. Only veterinarians have licenses to prescribe and inject intravenous tranquilizers, pain relievers, and prescribe appropriate antibiotics if necessary.
- Power tools are used most commonly today to file down certain sharp points in the dental arcades to keep the horse chewing normally but are certain to harm the animal without tranquilizer and IV pain medication.
- There is no shortage of equine veterinarians performing dentistry as a routine veterinary practice in Montana. Quantitate this perceived shortage if stated by proponent.
- The public and their animals are protected from veterinary malpractice by licensing and a defined scope of practice- there is no public accountability for harming a horse through a bad lay dentist as proposed in this bill.
- There are AVMA approved Board-certified veterinary dentists through the American Veterinary Dental College, and a specialty in dentistry for certified veterinary technicians.
- Not every veterinarian is properly trained in equine dentistry and mistakes can be made but through the Board of Veterinary Medicine the public has recourse.
- Continuing Education is widely available for equine veterinarians to pursue further training and education in more difficult dental procedures including extractions, radiology, and oral surgery.
- Tranquilizing a horse requires an exam of the animal prior to giving medications, knowledge of any preexisting conditions that might interfere with the sedation, exam, or treatment of any dental conditions.
- It is thought that a common tranquilizer xylazine may become DEA controlled as humans are starting to abuse it by adding it to street drugs, this adds another layer of responsibility on the licensed veterinarian.
- Performing a dental exam and "floating teeth" includes diagnosing and prescribing treatment which is clearly defined in the veterinary practice Section 1 (c)
- Many times the veterinarian is performing other treatments to the horse while under sedation, such as cleaning the sheath on geldings, cleaning out ears from fly bites or oral deworming in horses that resent the action without sedation. Two farm calls by a lay dentist and veterinarian adds to the cost of treatment to the equid when only the veterinarian needs to be called.
- Page 2 line 11 says that these people have to be certified by "the international association of equine dentistry" Why only that one lay organization when there are at least 3 others including the Academy of Equine Dentistry, Equine Dental Practitioners of America, Worldwide Equine Dentistry Association and BEVA- British Equine Veterinary Association? This makes no sense at all. Veterinarians have *one* national association that accredits all of the veterinary and veterinary technology schools in the US- the AVMA and then our state licensing boards create our scope of practice to protect animals and the public.
- Page 2 line 15 talks about dental arcades and incisors in equine and other farm animals. Why include other farm animals? There is very little need to float a cow or camelid. What about wolf teeth removal? This is surgical but lay dentists do it all the time with no sedation or pain management.
- There is no animal or public protection with this bill.
- As you know there is a shortage of mixed animal veterinarians in rural Montana who are trying to make a living year-round and equine work is a huge part of that practice. Please don't take it away from us licensed, professional, doctors of veterinary medicine. Please oppose SB 347.

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PONDEROSA ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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EQUINE DENTAL CHART

Date _____

Amt. Paid \$**Paid by: Cash/CC/Check #** _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address

Horse _____

[illegible]

Stable	Other Contact
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RIGHT SIDE OF HORSE

LEFT SIDE OF HORSE

M3	M2	M1	PM4	PM3	PM2	PM1	C	I3	I2	I1	I1	I2	I3	C	PM1	PM2	PM3	PM4	M1	M2	M3
111	110	109	108	107	106	105	104	103	102	101	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211
411	410	409	408	407	406	405	404	403	402	401	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311

History: _____

Tranquilizer: _____

Exam: _____

Procedures: _____

Recommendations:

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MOLARS		CANINES		SERVICES	
Procedure: Float		Procedure: Reduction		Call Fee	
Bit Seat		Tartar		Exam	
Hooks		Extract		Consult	
Ramps				Sedation	
Waves		INCISORS		Repeat Sedation	
Step		Procedure: Reduction			
Ridges		Realign		Antibiotic Inj.	
Cupped		Extraction: Deciduous		Anti-Inflammatory Inj.	
		Fragment		Sheath Cleaning	
		Decayed		Vaccination	
Extraction: Deciduous					
Fragment		WOLF TEETH			
Decayed		Procedure: Extraction		MEDS/SUPPLIES DISPENSED	
		Fragment			
Sub-Total Column 1		Sub-Total Column 2		Sub-Total Column 3	

TOTAL DUE \$

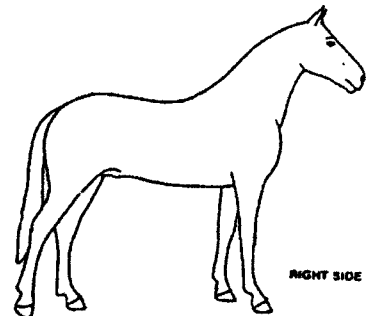
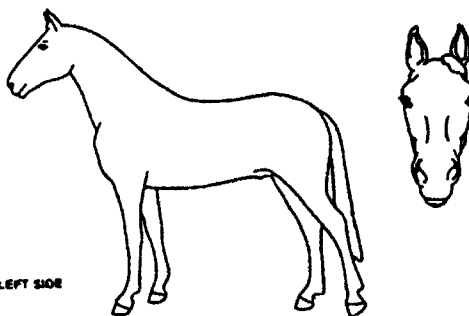
PONDEROSA ANIMAL HOSPITAL**Dr. Jeanne Rankin****(970) 225-2125****EQUINE REPORT CARD****Date** _____**Owner** _____ **Horse / Mule** _____**Vaccination Program**☐ Up to Date☐ Vac. Due: Tetanus _____ EEE/WEE _____ Flu _____ Rhino _____ Strangles _____ WNV _____ Other _____ Other _____☐ Vac. Given: Tetanus _____ EEE/WEE _____ Flu _____ Rhino _____ Strangles _____ WNV _____ Other _____ Other _____**Dewormed** _____**1. Coat & Skin**☐ Appears normal☐ Dull / Dry☐ Itchy☐ _____**2. Eyes**☐ Appear normal☐ Discharge: L _____ R _____☐ Inflamed: L _____ R _____☐ _____**3. Ears**☐ Appear normal☐ Inflamed: L _____ R _____☐ Itchy: L _____ R _____☐ _____**4. Nose & Throat**☐ Appear normal☐ Nasal Discharge☐ Enlarged Lymph Glands☐ _____**5. Mouth, Teeth, & Gums**☐ Appear normal☐ Needs floating☐ Ulcers☐ _____**6. Legs & Hooves**☐ Appear normal☐ Lameness: LF RF LR RR☐ Joint Problems☐ Hoof Problems☐ _____**7. Abdomen**☐ Appears normal☐ Fluid☐ Painful☐ _____**8. Lungs**☐ Appear normal☐ Abnormal☐ Coughing☐ Congestion☐ Breathing☐ _____**9. Gastrointestinal System**☐ Appears normal☐ Palpation - OK☐ Sounds:☐ Abnormal feces☐ _____**10. Urogenital**☐ Appears normal☐ Abnormal urination☐ Discharge☐ _____**11. Central Nervous System**☐ Appears normal☐ _____**12. Heart**☐ Appears normal☐ Murmur☐ _____**13. Diet**☐ Good☐ Needs change☐ _____**Coggins Test**☐ Negative _____☐ Recommended☐ Today**Fecal Test**☐ Negative☐ Positive☐ Recommended

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T _____ HR _____ Resp _____

CRT _____ mm _____ B / S _____

Wt. Est. _____ Ht. Est. _____

**History**

Diagnosis / Description

Treatment / Recommendations

Dr. _____

Need _____ in _____ days

Hopkins, Olivia

From: leg-noreply@mt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 8:53 AM
To: LEG Applications Email Backup; LEG Committee-Senate Agriculture testimony
Subject: Public Comment for Bill SB-347: Revise laws related to equine and livestock dental services 2021-02-25 03:00 PM - (S) Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Successfully Submitted on 02-24-21 08:52

Details:

Bill: SB-347: Revise laws related to equine and livestock dental services 2021-02-25 03:00 PM - (S) Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Position: Opponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

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Written Statement: This bill has huge animal welfare concerns regarding lay people using power tools and surgical instruments to extract teeth or to remove abnormal tissue without the use of a veterinarian who is licensed to sedate or anesthetize the horse, to inject pain reliever and to prescribe antibiotics if necessary. Veterinarians are regulated and have an ethical and moral responsibility to "do no harm" and only veterinarians can use legally purchase tranquilizers and narcotics, pain relievers, and prescribe certain antibiotics. My veterinary oath requires me to "use my scientific knowledge and skills to the benefit of society through the protection of animal health and welfare, the prevention and relief of animal suffering..." I am an equine veterinary practitioner who in my practice routinely performed dental exams and treatment and there is no shortage of veterinarians in Montana who routinely do dentistry, both large animal and small animal. Please oppose this bill.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer