

Alaska Veterinary Medical Association

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RESOLUTION:

Re: HB139, pertaining to Veterinary Licensing Standards.

As the Executive Committee for the Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association (AKVMA), we represent over 150 veterinarians (comprising roughly 80% of resident licensed veterinarians in the State of Alaska). The Executive Committee of the AKVMA opposes the adoption of HB139. This measure does not uphold the current high standards of veterinary medicine practiced within the State of Alaska. Therefore we have adopted the following resolution:

Whereas HB139 "An Act relating to qualifications for licensure as a veterinarian" changes the veterinary licensing qualifications in such a way that it allows for lowering veterinary licensing standards in the State of Alaska;

Whereas HB139 proposes to eliminate statute of the national qualification standard recognized by all 50 states, the federal government, and Canada;

Whereas HB 139 proposes to authorize a revolving 5 member Veterinary Medical Examining Board with the authority to change veterinary licensing requirements at will;

Whereas HB 139 presents a potential liability to the Veterinary Medical Examining Board as well as the State of Alaska;

Be it Resolved, the AKVMA Executive Committee of the Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association strongly holds that veterinary licensing standards should remain as they are; clearly stated in statute and not subject to periodic changes by a revolving board;

Be it Further Resolved, the AKVMA Executive Committee of the Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association formally resolves to express its disapproval of HB139;

Be it Further Resolved, the AKVMA Executive Committee, on behalf of its membership, respectfully requests Legislators of the State of Alaska to oppose passage of HB139 thereby upholding the highest standards of veterinary medicine currently practiced in the State of Alaska.

AKVMA President: James Delker, DVM
AKVMA President-Elect: Diane Preziosi, DVM
AKVMA - AVMA Delegate: Jon Basler, DVM
AKVMA Secretary: Myra Wilson, DVM
AKVMA Immediate Past President: Katy Versteeg, DVM
AKVMA Past President: Nelson Priddy, DVM