

## Konrad Jackson

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**From:** Jamie Merrigan [jlmerrigan@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2011 2:25 AM  
**To:** Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Subject:** Please defeat HB 139

3-16-2011

Dear Representative Olson,

There is a committee hearing scheduled for this coming Friday March 18, in regards to Representative Wilson's bill HB 139. As a veterinarian practicing in Anchorage, and as a member of the Alaska Veterinary Medical Association, I feel that the passage of this bill will directly result in the decline of high quality veterinary care in Alaska. This bill will lower the standards for veterinary licensing in Alaska and subject licensure requirements to be able to be changed at will. Veterinary licensing requirements should be clearly stated in statute and not subject to drastic changes that could alter the quality of veterinary medicine throughout our entire state. I as a veterinarian strive to practice quality medicine, and worked diligently to pass all of the required tests in order to be able to practice in Alaska and the United States. It would be an insult to those practicing veterinarians in our state if licensing standards were lowered. It would also result in the direct compromise of our current high standards of veterinary care. Please defeat HB 139. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamie Merrigan, DVM  
Diamond Animal Hospital and Emergency Services, Anchorage