

To: House Agriculture Committee
Representative Ken Rahjes, Chairman

From: Lloyd L Wilson III, DVM, Centerville, KS

RE: Written Testimony in Opposition of HB 2532 – Veterinary Practice Act

Date: February 14, 2022

Chairman Rahjes and members of the committee, thank you for allowing to provide written testimony in opposition of HB 2532. My name is Llyod L Wilson, I am a practicing veterinarian in Centerville, Kansas.

Among the changes being sought, is one that will require respondent veterinarians to pay for their own prosecutions! This would, of course, financially incentivize the attorney general to vigorously prosecute even more cases than they do now. Their present "win at any cost" motivation, instead of seeking the truth will be even more severe.

As it stands now, every component of the structure and protocol of the KBVE is designed to deprive veterinarians of their right of due process and create an atmosphere of acrimony and hostility within the practice of veterinary medicine in Kansas. The KBVE does not issue warnings like every other government agency I know of, does not have specific written protocols to present to veterinarians regarding certain records, including controlled substances, makes no allowances for rural large animal practices, but instead seeks to throw the book at them.

As you are well aware, the K-State vet school is basically a tuition mill. Its main focus is to milk students for as much money as it can by extending the length of the education period (8 years vs. 6 for my era) and by admitting as many non-Kansas-residents as it can (60 plus %) for the extra money. Now add to the abominable debt load these draconian KBVE protocols and no wonder nobody wants to do this any more.

The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners does not meet en-banc, instead each new case is assigned to one veterinarian, who immediately turns it over to the AG and then sits by and rubber stamps the AG. Respondent veterinarians are prevented by law from contacting other KBVE members, (tampering with the board, a crime) and other members are prevented from contacting the member with the case.

A recent case against my associate, whose embittered and insane wife filed a false claim with the KBVE regarding his medical care, using incomprehensible logic and no legitimate evidence the KBVE and AG issued an emergency suspension of his license the day before Easter 2018 while my family were preparing to hunt Easter eggs in Chicago. This caused the abandonment of two critical-care hospitalized patients and the inability to deliver timely care to other sick patients and obstetrical cases involving cattle.

The AG was required by statute to immediately schedule a hearing on the matter, but actually prevented it from happening! A judicial review had to be scheduled by my associate and the judge immediately reinstated my associate's license due to lack of any supporting evidence, other than imperfect records.

Bottom line: The KBVE must be made, following restructuring and/or retraining, to meet en-banc. This will allow respondents to benefit from the collective wisdom of the entire convened body, and the depth and breadth of the varied experiences of the entire assembled body. One vet at a time taking turns is not a board at all. A coherent policy of written warnings and education should be established to prevent cases from becoming personal disasters. Veterinarians needing help should be assisted.

Once again, I do not think giving financial incentive to an AG staff already practicing a win at any cost mentality should be allowed by our legislature. Rather, reducing sources of money from veterinarians might reduce the number of these cases which are humiliating our badly needed veterinary profession.

Thank you for listening, Lloyd L Wilson III DVM, Centerville, Kansas

<Lee Opponent Testimony HB 2532.pdf>