SB 1539 Rules Advisory Committee (RAC)

Meeting Agenda

Date: November 4, 2026
Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

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1. Welcome and Call to Order

- Welcome by Peter J. Burns, Executive Director.
- Review of meeting purpose:
    - Final review of feedback received on the updated SB 1539 draft rules.
    - Discussion of any remaining concerns or recommendations.
    - Development of RAC consensus recommendations for presentation to the Board.

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2. Roll Call and RAC Roster

RAC Members, areas of expertise

- Earl Aalseth, DVM, Dairy Cattle, training
- Rawley Bigsby, Wallowa Co Commissioner, Rancher
- Gail Colbern, DVM, OVMA President
- Scott Duggan, OSU, Education Training
- Rodney Ferry, DVM, Lakeview, Food Animal
- Rusty Inglis, Oregon Farm Bureau Chair, Rancher
- Ryan Krabill, OCA Representative
- Adrienne Lulay Linn-Benton CC, Repro Education
- Erik Steen, OCA Representative

Non-voting RAC participants/consultants

- Emilio DeBess, OHA, Public Health DVM
- Ryan Scholz, Dept of Agriculture, State DVM

Staff

- Pete Burns, Agency Director
- Charlie Esparza, Rules Coordinator

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3. Review of Draft Rule Package

Reference Documents

- Rule Draft Version 4 with Summary - Oct. 2026
    - Explanatory Statement
    - Development Report
    - Final Draft Rule Language
    - Proposed OAR 875-XXXX: Unlicensed Pregnancy Verification in Cattle. [

Brief Staff Overview

- Summary of revisions following DOJ legal review.
- Explanation of training specificity requirements.
- Review of exemption language for experienced practitioners performing pregnancy verification prior to rule adoption.

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4. Review of Written RAC Feedback Received

RACFeedback

Gail Colburn

- Indicated the revised draft better reflects the practical realities of live-cow pregnancy verification work.
- Expressed support for the current version of the draft. *(Email comment received by staff.)*

Scott Duggan

- Reviewed draft and reported no additional comments.
- Expressed general support for the draft as written.

Training and Competency Feedback

Rodney Ferry

Key concerns and recommendations:

- Questions inclusion of language requiring a "Board approved educational program."
- Believes 50 palpations is insufficient to demonstrate competency.
- Suggests substantially greater hands-on experience before independent practice.
- Recommends apprenticeship and supervised field experience requirements.
- Emphasizes protection of producers through adequate training and experience.
- Questioned whether the draft's reference to a "Board approved educational program" is consistent with previous RAC discussions that the Board would specify training elements but would not approve, endorse, or disapprove specific training providers or programs.

Accessibility and Legacy Practitioner Feedback

Rusty Inglis

Key comments:

- Supports grandfathering/exemption language for individuals already performing pregnancy verification services.
- Requests consideration of training affordability.
- Requests training availability in rural areas where services are most needed.
- Supports moving forward with discussion at the November 4 meeting.

Biological Testing and Future Technology Feedback

Earl P. Aalseth

Key comments:

- Generally supports the rules as drafted.
- Recommends adding training related to proper collection and handling of blood and milk samples.
- Recommends keeping biological testing language flexible enough to accommodate future technologies, including additional tissue or fluid-based testing methods.

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5. RAC Discussion

Discussion Topics

1. Adequacy of minimum practical training requirements.
2. Whether additional apprenticeship or supervised field experience should be recommended.
3. Accessibility and affordability of training opportunities throughout Oregon.
4. Consistency of references to Board approval or endorsement of training programs.
5. Biological testing provisions and accommodation of future technologies.
6. Legacy practitioner exemption and implementation considerations.
7. Any additional member comments or concerns.

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6. Consensus Review

Discussion and determination of RAC consensus regarding:

- Support for the draft as written; or
- Support with recommended amendments; or
- Areas where consensus cannot be reached.

Document final recommendations for inclusion in the RAC report to the Board.

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7. Next Steps

- Confirm RAC recommendations.
- Discuss preparation of final staff report.
- Forward RAC recommendations to the Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board for consideration at the November 16-17 Board meeting.

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8. Adjourn

Adjourn and recognize RAC members for their participation and contributions throughout the SB 1539 rulemaking process. Their recommendations will be presented to the Board November 12-17.