

North Dakota Veterinary Technician Association
1/16/2025

Senate Workforce Development Committee
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505



Dear Chairman Wobbema and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the North Dakota Veterinary Technician Association (NDVTA), I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed bill to amend the North Dakota Veterinary Practice Act. This bill would provide title protection to veterinary technicians. As an organization dedicated to advancing the profession of veterinary technicians, we have witnessed firsthand the critical role that these professionals play in the delivery of high-quality veterinary care.

Veterinary technicians are highly trained professionals who possess specialized knowledge and skills essential to the veterinary team. They perform a wide range of tasks, including assisting in surgeries, administering anesthesia, conducting laboratory tests, and providing compassionate care to animals. Despite their significant contributions, the title "veterinary technician" is not currently protected, which can lead to confusion and misuse of the title by individuals who do not have the necessary qualifications.

Title protection is crucial for several reasons:

1. **Ensuring Quality of Care:** By protecting the title, we can ensure that only individuals who have met the rigorous educational and certification requirements can call themselves veterinary technicians. This will help maintain high standards of care and protect the welfare of animals.
2. **Public Trust:** Title protection will enhance public trust in the veterinary profession. Clients will have confidence that the individuals caring for their pets are properly trained and qualified.
3. **Professional Recognition:** Providing title protection acknowledges the professionalism and expertise of veterinary technicians. It recognizes their dedication and hard work, and it helps to elevate the status of the profession.
4. **Workforce Stability:** Title protection can also contribute to workforce stability by attracting and retaining qualified individuals in the field. It provides a clear career path and professional identity for those entering the profession and encourages a foundation to pursue further advanced credentialing.

This change is essential for ensuring the highest standards of veterinary care, enhancing public trust, and recognizing the valuable contributions of veterinary technicians. In conclusion, we urge a **"Do Pass"** recommendation for the bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bree Carmichiel, AS, LVT, VTS (ECC)

President

North Dakota Veterinary Technician Association