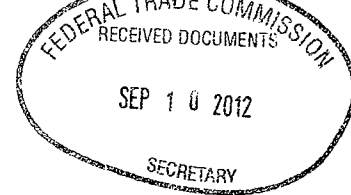


ORIGINAL



Carrie Shuler, DVM, MPH
Northwest Neighborhood Veterinary Hospital

9/2/2012

Pet Medications Workshop: Project No, P12-1201

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my concern about the proposed H.R. 1406. Human pharmacists are not able to handle veterinary medications without proper training in physiology and pharmacology in each species that they would be filling prescriptions. On numerous occasions, I have seen pharmacists suggest inappropriate medications and dosages for animals. Many of these could have been fatal mistakes, if not caught. Veterinarians have gone through extensive training to understand the comparative physiology and pharmacology of many species of animals. We are in the best position to fill medications for our patients, ensuring that contraindicated medications are not prescribed. The more prescriptions filled by human pharmacists for companion animals the more errors will occur.

A second concern that I have with H.R. 1406 is the increased cost to the pet owners. The increased cost of veterinary and staff time needed to meet the requirements will increase overall costs to the pet owners. An unnecessary amount of time will be spent dealing with human pharmacists and prescriptions.

H.R 1406 is a ploy by pharmacies to increase their bottom line, not help animals and pet owners. I encourage you to be a voice for animal patients and their owners. H.R 1406 will directly endanger the welfare of pets by placing the filling of medications in the hands of people who have insufficient education or knowledge to fill the prescriptions safely. Please be an advocate for the animals and vote NO on H.R. 1406.

Sincerely,

Carrie Shuler, DVM, MPH