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8/27/2012

Project No. P121201

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed H.R. 1406. Pharmacists are trained in human physiology and pharmacology. I have serious concerns about pharmacist ability to handle veterinary medications without proper training in physiology and pharmacology in each species that they would fill prescriptions for. On numerous occasions, I have seen pharmacist 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 their patients, ensuring that contraindicated medications are not prescribed. Pharmacists do not have the knowledge to prevent contraindicated medications from being filled.

A second concern that I have with H.R. 1406 is the increased cost to the pet owners during tough financial times. The increased cost of veterinary and staff time needed to meet the requirements will increase overall costs to the pet owners. Unnecessary and wasteful time will be spent dealing with pharmacies and prescriptions and the potential for errors in medications will increase.

H.R 1406 is a ploy by greedy corporations to line their pockets. 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

Yours truly,

Scott Shuler, DVM