



SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE

State Capitol, 500 East Capitol Ave., Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

April 5, 2012

Dr. Dustin Oedekoven, State Veterinarian
Animal Industry Board
411 South Fort Street
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Dear Dr. Oedekoven:

The Government Operations and Audit Committee has scheduled a meeting for May 1, 2012, in room 412, in the State Capitol Building, to review various issues involving state government.

The Committee requests that you be present on May 1, 2012 to discuss veterinarian services being provided in the State of South Dakota. As part of this discussion the Committee has developed the following questions for your consideration:

- What areas of the state are underserved by large animal veterinarians?
- Where are the large and small animal veterinarians geographically located in South Dakota?
- What financial incentive programs are in place to help South Dakota students attend veterinarian schools and begin practicing in South Dakota?
- What obligations do the students have to the State of South Dakota for these incentive programs?
- Please explain how these programs have evolved over the last three to five years and if any changes are needed for the future.
- What out-of-state veterinarian schools do the majority of our South Dakota students attend?
- How many openings are made available each year for our South Dakota students to attend these out-of-state schools?
- How many South Dakota students graduate each year from these out-of-state schools and return to the state to begin their practice?
- Of these graduates returning to South Dakota how many are large animal verses small animal veterinarians?
- Are you aware of people doing veterinarian activities that are not licensed?
- What are the roles and functions of veterinarian assistants?
- What other options are available for education besides veterinary science?

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. and this is the first agenda item.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Flannery with the Department of Legislative Audit at 773-3595.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Haverly", with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Senator Jeffrey Haverly, Chair
Government Operations and Audit Committee

Cc: Jason Dilges, Bureau of Finance and Management
Dusty Johnson, Governor's Office