



February 29, 2024

TO: Members of the House Agricultural Affairs Committee

SCR111

The Idaho Cattle Association (ICA) is the official voice for all segments of the beef industry. We are dedicated to representing seedstock breeders, commercial operators and cattle feeders. ICA is unique in that members are located in every corner of Idaho. The ICA would urge your **SUPPORT** of SCR111.

Veterinarians are a vital part of the beef cattle industry. They assist in prescribing the correct medications, all the way to coming to an operation in the middle of the night to help with dystocia or calving difficulties. They are essential and in high demand, but unfortunately they are quickly becoming short in supply. Many veterinarians are choosing to work with small animals and in urban areas, rather than venturing out to rural Idaho to assist operations with large animal needs.

SCR111 would instruct the State Board of Education to begin discussions with Utah State University to establish an agreement for Idaho students to participate in Utah's veterinary school program. Idaho currently has a partnership with Washington State University and this agreement would look similar to that. The State Board of Education will then report back their findings to the legislature. The goal is to get more veterinary students back in Idaho, but we will need to find places to have them educated and Utah State will be one of those locations in the future.

The ICA urges your **YES** vote on SCR111.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry Wroten", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jerry Wroten
Idaho Cattle Association President



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