

NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

September 3, 2024

The Honorable Ben Hansen
Health and Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Chairman Hansen:

The Department of Health and Human Services' statement on the explanation of effectiveness of the veterinary technician license, below, reflects its sole views. The question has also been sent to the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery and its response will be forwarded should they choose to opine.

Loss of this occupation would result in these individuals being treated as unlicensed assistants. Unlicensed assistants are currently authorized by 172 NAC 180 to perform certain delegated animal health care tasks under the supervision of a veterinarian; however, these unlicensed assistants are performing lower-lever tasks and do not provide the level of assurance to the public that comes with required training and competency assessment.

There is one set of regulations that governs this occupation. The regulations set out a uniform set of standards for education and practice within the occupation. The ability of the public to access this care and the low number of disciplines are indications of the effectiveness of the regulation of the occupation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy A. Tesmer".

Timothy A. Tesmer, MD
Chief Medical Officer