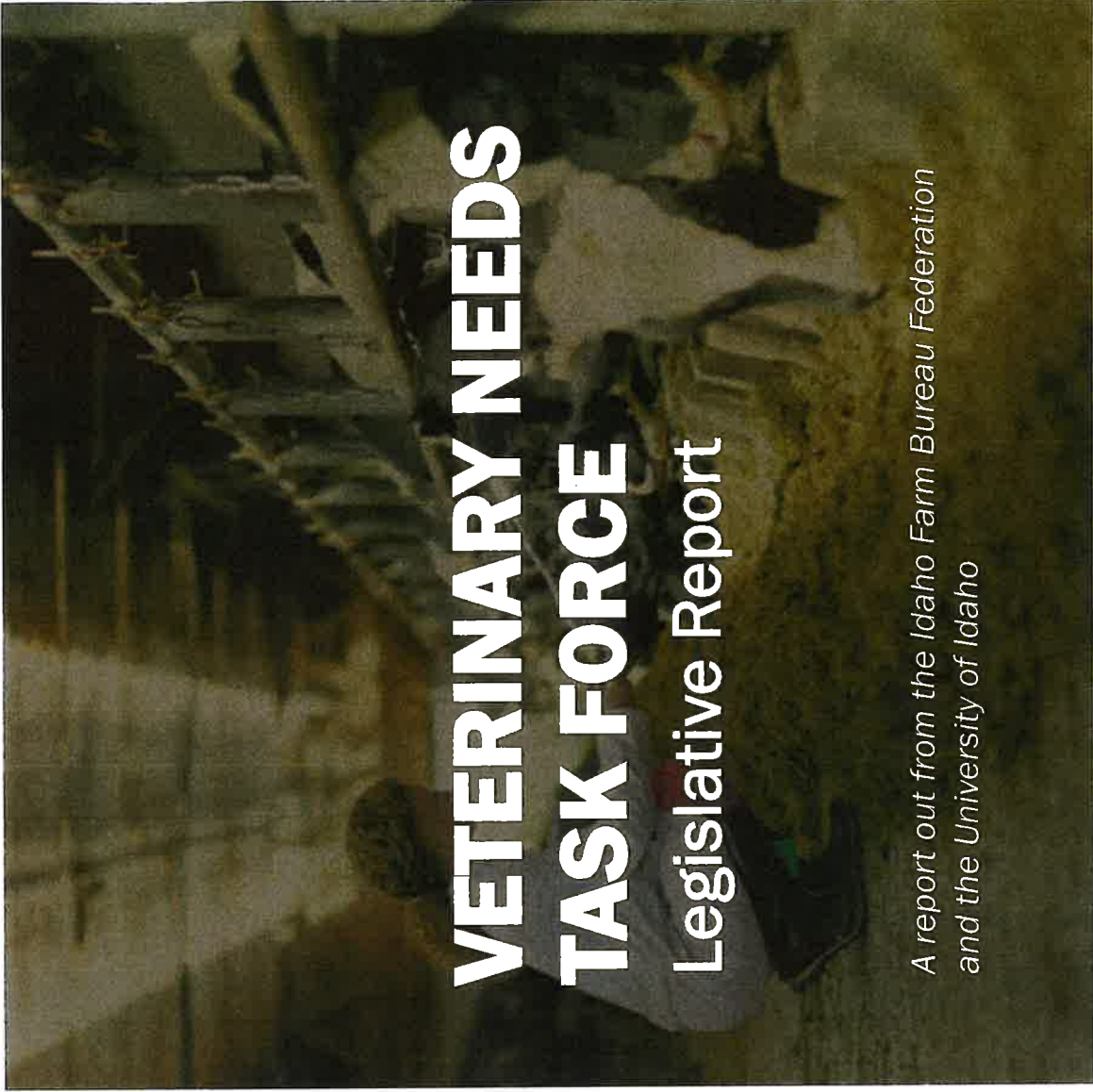


University
of Idaho

VETERINARY NEEDS TASK FORCE

Legislative Report

A report out from the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
and the University of Idaho



Attachment 1 - March 16, 2023



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- A looming crisis – Idaho’s shortage of rural veterinarians
- Impacts of veterinary shortage to Idaho
- Discussion of current veterinary medicine program (WIMU)
- Existing programs evaluated by task force
- Task force recommendations

Attachment 1 - March 14, 2023



A LOOMING CRISIS

IDAHO'S SHORTAGE OF RURAL VETERINARIANS

- By a measure of value of production, Idaho is a livestock state
 - *Estimated number of food-animals in the state is 2,762,000 (cattle, sheep, pigs)*
- Food animal veterinarians make up about 5% of all veterinarians in the U.S.
- Approximately 3-4% of new veterinary graduates enter food-animal related practice
- Average age of food animal vets is over 50 years old
- Average sales volume of rural veterinary practices vs. urban is roughly 1/3 less
- Many Rural Veterinarian Hurdles:
 - *High education costs, lower potential earnings, increased injury risk, etc.*

Sources: (1) ISDA Agriculture Facts, (2) 2022 Cornell Center of Veterinary Business and Entrepreneurship Report

Attachment 1 - March 16, 2023

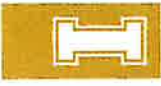


INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Policy #122

"We support efforts to incentivize vet students studying large food animal medicine to practice in Idaho."





COSTS OF VETERINARY SHORTAGE TO IDAHO

- Negative impact on growth of Idaho's animal industries
- Animal welfare issues
- Economic hit to animal agriculture, the largest sector of Idaho's economy
 - Cost of veterinary care
 - Loss of animals





WIMU VETERINARY DEGREE PROGRAM

WASHINGTON – IDAHO – MONTANA – UTAH

- Funds out-of-state tuition at Washington State University for 44 Idaho residents annually (11 per class)
- Also fund faculty and operating expenses at U of I to teach food-animal rotations for WIMU students throughout Idaho
- State funding has not kept pace with tuition increases
- Number of students is too low for Idaho's needs
- Need to increase # of rural veterinary oriented students – currently no expectation for them to return to Idaho
- Estimated shortage in Idaho is 40 and growing – for every veterinarian seeking work, there are 18 positions open nationwide



Attachment 1 - March 16, 2023



TASK FORCE RESEARCH

- WWAMI Medical Education (Washington-Wyoming-Alaska-Montana-Idaho)
 - TRUST Program (Targeted Rural Underserved Track)
 - WWAMI Reimbursement model
- Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas (Kansas State University)
- Expanding the role of veterinary technicians

Attachment 1 - March 16, 2023



TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Expand program size from 11-20 students
- 1+3 Program with first year at U of I (cost to state tied to inflation); Idaho WIMU students only pay out-of-state tuition for 1 year at WSU
- Initiate a Targeted Rural Veterinary Program (TRVP) for Idaho WIMU students (10 students per year admitted out of class of 20)
 - Students choosing the TRVP track pay no tuition
 - TRVP students are paired with rural county veterinary practices in year 1
 - TRVP students must pay back tuition if they do not locate to a rural practice within 1 years after graduation
- Idaho WIMU students must pay back year of out-of-state tuition if they do not locate to Idaho after graduation

Attachment 1 - March 16, 2023



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Idaho Veterinary Medicine Task Force

Academic Members

- Michael P. Parrella Dean – U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- Mark McGuire Associate Dean – U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- Brent Olmstead Government Affairs - U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- Bob Collier Department Head – U of I Animal, Veterinary and Food Sciences
- Dr. Lauren Christensen Veterinarian – U of I Animal, Veterinary and Food Sciences
- Caroline Nilsson-Troy Government Affairs – University of Idaho

Veterinarian Members

- Dr. Scott Leibsle Idaho State Veterinarian
- Dr. Bill Barton Former Idaho State Veterinarian
- Dr. Rena Carlson President – American Veterinary Medical Association
- Dr. Kathy Ponozzo President – Idaho Veterinary Medical Association
- Dr. Rhonda Aliah Skyline Animal Hospital
- Dr. Wayne Cutler Gem Valley Veterinary Service
- Dr. Steve Haymore Alpine Veterinary Hospital
- Dr. Janet Kershner Willowcreek Animal Hospital
- Dr. Jody Rockett Veterinary Technology – College of Southern Idaho

Legislative Members

- Senator Van T. Burtenshaw District 35
- Senator David Lent District 33
- Representative Kevin Andrus District 28
- Representative Lori McCann District 6
- Representative Laurie Lickley *Former*

Industry Members

- Cameron Mulrony Idaho Cattle Association
- Kim Brackett Idaho Cattle Association
- Mark Pratt Idaho Cattle Association
- Rick Naerebout Idaho Dairymen's Association
- Liz Wilder Idaho Wool Growers Association

Allied Industry Members

- Braden Jensen Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
- Patxi Larrocea-Phillips AMG Idaho
- Ray Randall J.R. Simplot Company
- Steve Wilder Retired Chair Ag Sciences – Meridian School District

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