



Heide Holste, BS
Executive Director
Minnesota Association of Veterinary Technicians
PO Box 130564
2000 County Road B2W
Roseville, MN 55113-9998

VIA EMAIL hholste@mnnavt.org

Dear Ms. Holste,

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) joins the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA), the Minnesota Association of Veterinary Technicians (MAVT), and many other associations and individuals in support of HF 1228 and SF 1522 that would provide for the licensure and regulation of Veterinary Technicians in the State of Minnesota.

NAVTA strongly supports licensure of Veterinary Technicians in Minnesota. We support licensure for Veterinary Technicians as a way to recognize their professional abilities but, more importantly, as a way to advance veterinary medicine by improving the quality of patient care, providing professional accountability, and enhancing public protection.

Veterinary Technicians play key roles in disease prevention, identification, treatment, and public education. They also help ensure the safety of food and feed, play an integral role in preventing dog bite injury, are involved in various forms of animal control, and help ensure the functional health of working animals, such as service dogs.

In Minnesota, as elsewhere, Veterinary Technicians work closely with veterinarians to administer anesthesia in accord with protocols so that surgical procedures can be performed safely. Veterinary Technicians perform diagnostic imaging and clinical pathology to assist in disease diagnosis. In addition, and subject to the veterinarian's orders, Veterinary Technicians dispense and administer medications, including controlled substances. Each of these critical functions, and many others, should be performed only by licensed and regulated Veterinary Technicians.

Minnesota is one of only a handful of states where licensure of Veterinary Technicians is not required. Passage of HF 1228 and SF 1522 would advance the profession of Veterinary Technology and further protect the public, animal health, and animal welfare.

NAVTA strongly supports and encourages passage of HF 1228 and SF 1522.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip E. Russo".

Phillip E. Russo, CAE
Executive Director