



March 23, 2022

Kelly Andrews, CAE
Executive Director
Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
101 Bridgepoint Way, Suite 2100
So. St. Paul, MN 55075

Dear Ms. Andrews:

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 SF2935 and HF2553 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 SF2935 and HF2553 would not only advance the profession of Veterinary Technology, but would also further protect the public, animal health, and animal welfare.

NAVTA strongly supports and encourages Passage of SF2935 and HF2553.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip E. Russo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Phillip E. Russo, CAE
Executive Director

CC:

Dr. Alan Balay, Chair – MVMA Veterinary Technician Committee
Maria Nellessen, President - Minnesota Association of Veterinary Technicians (MAVT)
Kim Horne, Chair - MAVT Credentials Committee