

State Representative  
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## Oregon Senate to Consider Ban on Roping Horses

SALEM – On Monday, April 8 the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will hold a public hearing and work session on Senate Bill 835. This bill bans roping horses by the legs.

The bill prohibits “intentionally caus[ing] an equine to trip or fall, or intentionally rop[ing] or lasso[ing] the legs of an equine, for purposes of a rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport or as practice.” This bill has far-reaching implications, including possible restrictions on private landowners engaged in horse handling or the administration of veterinary care. Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario) testified against this bill on March 20, when it was in slightly different form (Senate Bill 790).

If you oppose this ban, you should immediately email a letter reflecting your opposition to Beth Reiley ([beth.reiley@state.or.us](mailto:beth.reiley@state.or.us)), Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee Administrator. You should also email the bill’s sponsor, Sen. Mark Hass ([sen.markhass@state.or.us](mailto:sen.markhass@state.or.us)).

The bill is confusing since it now includes a “Right to Rodeo” and a ban on horse roping. Rep. Bentz supports rodeos and understands their contribution to Eastern Oregon and its economy. However, the inclusion of the horse roping ban makes it impossible for Rep. Bentz to support the bill.

If interested in submitting written testimony please direct comments to the members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. If interested in appearing before the committee on Monday afternoon, our Salem office is able to assist in coordinating with the committee to ensure that your presence is expected. Any questions should be directed to our Salem office at (503) 986-1460 or [rep.cliffbentz@state.or.us](mailto:rep.cliffbentz@state.or.us).

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