On January 8, 2014 the U.S. Senate passed the Veterinary Mobility Act which amends the Controlled Substances Act. With the passing of this amendment, a veterinarian who is registered to manufacture or distribute controlled substances is no longer required to have a separate registration in order to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice at a site other than the veterinarian’s principal place of business or professional practice, as long as the site of transporting and dispensing is located in a state where the veterinarian is licensed to practice. This will improve veterinarians’ ability to provide mobile and ambulatory services, which is often necessary in rural areas and also for mobile veterinary clinics and hospice care providers. The amendment is now being reviewed by the House of Representatives. You can contact your local representative here to help this companion bill pass through the House: http://avmacan.avma.org/avma/issues/alert/?alertid=63048321.

The CVMA Is Bringing PacVet to You! By Chanel Baron

The Pacific Veterinary Conference (PacVet) is an exciting four day event that offers continuing education to veterinarians and veterinary technicians on the West Coast! This year it is taking place in beautiful San Francisco, which happens to be quite accessible to UCD SVM students. Not busy June 19th—June 22nd (or a day or two in between)? Join me and hundreds of veterinarians in this region to learn about innovations in veterinary medicine! Approximately 1,500 veterinarians attend each PacVet conference, which provides us students with an unbeatable networking opportunity. In addition to meeting and learning alongside established veterinarians, there is a golden line-up of speakers and topics to be covered. Lectures run all day and cover a large range of veterinary medicine specialties: Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, Avian/Exotic and Mixed Animal, Equine Medicine, Disaster Preparedness and Response, and Practice Management. A few interesting talks include “The Difference between Dogs and Cats with Cancer,” “Current Topics in Reptile Husbandry,” and “Radiographic Survey of Successfully Competing Elite Show Jumpers in the USA.” Registration is $110 for students which is discounted from the $520 it costs veterinarians who are not members of the CVMA. We would love for students to take advantage of this opportunity! Any questions you may have can be emailed to Chanel Baron: cnbaron@ucdavis.edu

Update on Veterinary Mobility Act By Lori Hammond

On January 8, 2014 the U.S. Senate passed the Veterinary Mobility Act which amends the Controlled Substances Act. With the passing of this amendment, a veterinarian who is registered to manufacture or distribute controlled substances is no longer required to have a separate registration in order to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice at a site other than the veterinarian’s principal place of business or professional practice, as long as the site of transporting and dispensing is located in a state where the veterinarian is licensed to practice. This will improve veterinarians’ ability to provide mobile and ambulatory services, which is often necessary in rural areas and also for mobile veterinary clinics and hospice care providers. The amendment is now being reviewed by the House of Representatives. You can contact your local representative here to help this companion bill pass through the House: http://avmacan.avma.org/avma/issues/alert/?alertid=63048321.
**Legislative Updates** by Virginia Butler and Lori Hammond

**Fairness to Pet Owners Act:**
The Fairness to Pet Owners Act of 2014 is the reintroduction of a bill (previously failed in 2012) in the U.S. House of Representatives that would require veterinarians to provide a paper copy of veterinary prescriptions to the pet owner before offering to fill or dispense the prescription (even if the pet owner wants the veterinarian to dispense the medication). Veterinarians would also be prohibited (1) from charging for the prescription as part of (or in addition to) the fee for examination and evaluation of the pet, and (2) from asking the client to sign a liability waiver should the prescription be inaccurately filled by an off-site pharmacy. This bill places an unnecessary burden on veterinarians, particularly since the veterinarian is already required to write a prescription in the medical record and thereby must write the prescription a second time, even if the pet owner has no intent of having the prescription filled someplace else. Under current California law, pet owners are already protected by provisions requiring a veterinarian to inform their clients in writing that they may have their prescriptions filled at a pharmacy of their choice. You can help prevent this bill from becoming law by contacting Representative John Garamendi (for residents of Davis, Woodland and Dixon) and letting him know that you oppose the bill and asking him to refrain from co-sponsoring H.R. 4023. For a prepared form letter to Rep. Garamendi hitting all the major points, please visit the Legislative Action Center on either the CVMA or AVMA websites.

**Marine Mammals: Protection of Orcas:**
On February 20, 2014, Assembly Member Richard Bloom introduced California Assembly Bill 2140, titled Marine Mammals: Protection of Orcas: Unlawful Activities. This bill has spurred much debate since then, and as you may have noticed, many of our peers have joined in on the conversation. The bill would make it “unlawful to hold in captivity, or use, a wild-captured or captive-bred orca...intended to be used for performance or entertainment purposes...” in the state of California. For the full text of this bill visit: [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB2140](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB2140). Here are some arguments for and against the bill:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arguments in Favor of AB 2140</th>
<th>Arguments in Opposition of AB 2140</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Orcas’ natural behaviors and high intelligence make it impossible to provide an adequate captive environment that meets all of their needs</td>
<td>• Orcas in captivity experience a high standard of welfare and are well cared for by a team of animal professionals, including veterinarians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The bill would allow orcas to enter “early retirement” and live the rest of their lives in sea pens where they could exhibit more of their natural behaviors</td>
<td>• Captive orcas provide a learning experience that inspires kids and adults to be active participants in protecting their wild counterparts through conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Retired orcas would still be allowed on display, and organizations could focus on education rather than entertainment, also allowing for continued research</td>
<td>• They serve as animal ambassadors that allow us to learn more about the species through research that could not easily be done with a wild population; this research in turn helps to preserve wild orcas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• There would be less direct human contact, providing a safer environment for trainers</td>
<td>• Captive orcas provide accessibility to these magnificent creatures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To make your voice heard on this subject and to join the conversation, contact your local Assembly Member! Hon. Mariko Yamada (916) 319-2004, or Sen. Lois Wolk (916) 651-4003

**Student Representatives**

**CVMA:**
SCAVMA: Chanel Baron  
2015: David Namekata, Joanna Kaplan  
2016: Jennifer Norman, Caroline Sloan  
2017: Michelle Albin, Josephine Noah

**LEGISLATIVE:**
SCAVMA: Lori Hammond  
2015: Kathleen Heng  
2016: Virginia Butler  
2017: Steven Brokenthal