

Large Animal Student Loan Program in Jeopardy

Senator Dan Brown has been an advocate for the MVMA-backed large animal loan forgiveness program. We learned October 3rd that Governor Nixon used the line item veto to eliminate funding for this and other programs in the budget. Senator Brown reports that State Auditor Tom Schweich intends to challenge the constitutionality of the veto. The basis of the challenge is that the budget shows a \$159 million surplus, and that vetoes are designed to balance the budget, not reallocate funding when the resources are in place to fulfill the funding as passed by the legislature. Schweich's [budget withholding audit](#) refers to this issue.