

VOTE NO ON THE PERCENTAGE REGISTRY PROPOSAL

Concern Number One:

The current AOA Board, by a vote of 6-3, voted to bring a proposal to the membership that would create a second alpaca registry, called the Percentage Registry. This vote will occur as a Special election in December 2026.

The contributors of this presentation **HAVE** had discussions with experienced livestock industry experts- including former AOA board members, founding alpaca registry participants, importers, and professionals from other multi-registry livestock sectors. **THEY** consistently point to the same conclusion: multiple registries dilute values, weaken standards, and ultimately harm the very members they are meant to support.

The Proponents of this proposal have provided no examples of other livestock industries that have thrived under multiple registries, only that they have survived. There is no credible evidence that this will change and give any substantial benefits to the **current** AOA membership. The Contributors of this statement believe the proposal was rushed and not sufficiently vetted.

The AOA closed purebred registry is the most accurate registry in the world, 99.23%. Why would we want to expose that to any harm or devaluation. Instead, why don't we focus on elevating it and market it's excellence?

Concern Number Two:

The percentage- registry allows alpacas to be registered with or without DNA verification. The fee for this initial registration is minimal and substantially lower than the current registry. This creates an alternative for members who would otherwise register their alpacas under the existing system.

This is not a minor procedural change it represents A fundamental departure from principles on which the closed AOA registry was built. We should never approve any action which threatens our foundation registry or even potentially the foundation of AOA. It has the potential to significantly impact both AOA's financial health and the stability of its current membership.

The distinction between carefully bred, DNA verified alpacas and unverified alpacas will become blurred under the same organizational banner. Once that line is blurred, both registries, absorb reputational damage. It will cause confusion to members and maybe more importantly, folks looking into the industry.

The supporters of the percentage registry propose that this action will lead to a sorely needed increase in revenue for AOA. There is no evidence to show that the percentage registry will bring about any measurable additional funds. The hope of additional funds does not justify the risk of harm to the current AOA closed Purebred Registry. The percentage registry could in fact present financial problems.

Example:

*In 2025 AOA registered approximately 3,000 alpacas.

*If only 15% had opted for the percentage registry, AOA would have lost an Estimated \$20,250 in revenue.

*AOA would need to register over 1,000 additional alpacas in the percentage registry just to offset this loss, not accounting for added administrative, processing, and outreach costs.

*There was no evidence to suggest that such a demand exists.

If the percentage registry is implemented, many of these alpacas would likely come from adoption, rescue, inheritance, or poor mentorship situations -often acquired at little or no cost. This creates an immediate and significant market imbalance.

Percentage -registry alpacas could be sold at a substantially lower prices, placing downward pressure on the market and undermining the investment of established breeders. This risk is compounded by AOA halter shows - arguably the most important marketing platform for breeders -which would further amplify these effects if percentages-registry alpacas are allowed to compete and be promoted at AOA sanctioned events. Farms with little or no financial stake in the registry would be able to compete directly with established members of the AOA closed purebred registry for show placings, private treaty sales at the shows, and AOA Breeder -Alpaca awards and Futurity Herd Sire of the year awards.

Concern Number Three:

Alpaca imports are currently limited. The proposal does not adequately account for future scenarios. The percentage registry could unintentionally create a pathway for imported animals to enter and influence the domestic market. The laws of supply and demand tell us that this additional surplus devalues your alpaca unless we increase demand. Imported alpacas or new alpaca genetics will benefit only a select few.

Concern Number Four:

AOA's credibility, integrity, and overall value are at risk if the percentage -registry is implemented. Maintaining two competing registries under the same institutional name, with overlapping privileges, creates confusion in the marketplace. It dilutes the meaning and value of the purebred alpacas and opens the door to additional sub registries and competing systems. Even though the proposal states that the two registries will remain completely separate, at a later date, with only 10% support of the membership the merger could be put to vote.

Eventually, there will be a call to allow all or certain alpacas from the percentage registry into the AOA closed purebred (99.23%) registry, once they attain a certain percentage of parental validation. If allowed, this action will decrease the "accuracy" of the Closed Purebred Registry and thus devalue **ALL** current AOA purebred alpacas. Remember it took over thirty years to establish a 99.23% pure AOA closed Registry. This proposal **does not** simply expand participation-it **DOES** risk undermining the value of your alpaca investment, weakening the AOA Show System, and eroding the integrity of the existing registry-all with no clear, demonstrated benefit.

If we want to be more inclusive and bring more people into AOA, why do we need to expose the AOA closed purebred registry to unknown issues. We should develop programs for the youth and others that would show them the value of the purebred alpaca. Programs like adoption, and mentorship.