

January 25, 2024
Board Room 3
9:00 a.m.

Agenda
Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine
Full Board Meeting

Call to Order – Thomas Massie, Jr., D.V.M., Board President

Page 1

- Welcome
- Emergency Egress Procedures
- Mission Statement

Ordering of Agenda – Dr. Massie

Public Comment – Dr. Massie

The Board will receive all public comment related to agenda items at this time. The Board will not receive comment on any regulatory process for which a public comment period has closed or any pending or closed complaint or disciplinary matter.

Approval of Minutes – Dr. Massie

Pages 2-7

October 26, 2023 – Full Board Meeting (pages 2-7)

Agency Director’s Report – Arne Owens, Director

Legislative/Regulatory Report – Erin Barrett

Pages 8-26

Regulatory Update (page 8)

- Reduction of requirements for licensure by endorsement
- Agency subordinates to hear credentials cases
- 2022 Periodic Review

Legislative Update (pages 9-26)

- HB848: Veterinary medicine; traineeships. (pages 9-10)
- HB1306/SB663: Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; satellite offices. (pages 11-14)
- HB1354: Declawing cats; prohibition; civil penalty. (pages 15-16)
- HB1387: Department of Health Professions; veterinary medicine; exceptions for care of animals injured in the line of duty. (pages 17-18)
- SB412: Off-premises animal vaccination and microchip services; releasing agencies. (pages 19-20)
- SB682: Health professions; universal licensure; requirements. (pages 21-22)
- HJ43/SJ15: Study; State Veterinarian; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report/Study; Board of Veterinary Medicine; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report. (pages 23-26)

Board Counsel’s Report – Laura Booberg

President’s Report – Dr. Massie

Board of Health Professions’ Report – Steven Karras, D.V.M.

Staff Reports

Pages 27-28

- Executive Director’s Report – **Leslie Knachel /Ms. Moss**
 - Statistics (page 27-28)
 - Outreach Information

-
-
- American Association of Veterinary State Boards 2024 Annual Meeting
 - Discipline Report

New Business – Dr. Massie

Page 136

Next Meeting – Dr. Massie/Ms. Knachel

Page 137

- March 11, 2024 – next full board meeting

Meeting Adjournment – Dr. Massie

This information is in **DRAFT** form and is subject to change.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure safe and competent patient care by licensing health professionals, enforcing standards of practice, and providing information to health care practitioners and the public.

Call to Order

The October 26, 2023, Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer – Thomas B. Massie, Jr., DVM, President

Members Present

Jeffery B. Newman, DVM, Vice-President
Tregel Cockburn, DVM, Secretary
Steve Linas, OD, Citizen Member
Steve B. Karras, DVM

Members Attending Electronically

Richard G. Bailey, DVM was approved by the President of the Board to participate electronically due to a personal travel conflict that prevented him from being in the Richmond office for the meeting. Autumn N. Halsey, LVT was approved by the President of the Board to participate electronically due to a health issue that prevented her from being in the Richmond office for the meeting.

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director
Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director
Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Erin Barrett, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst DHP
Laura Booberg, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Laura Jackson, Board Administrator
Laura Paasch, Senior Licensing Specialist
Barbara Hodgdon, Deputy Director, Healthcare Workforce Data Center DHP
Taryn Singleton, LVT, Discipline Case Specialist

Public Present

James DeBell, DVM
Talya George, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association (VVMA)
Pattie Seeger, LVT, AAS, BBA

Susan Seward, VVMA

Establishment of Quorum

With five out of seven board members present in the Henrico, VA location and two members participating via electronic communication, a quorum was established.

Introductions

Dr. Massie welcomed Arne Owens, the new DHP Director, who began his appointment on November 1, 2022.

Dr. Massie announced that the agency has a new Chief Deputy Director, James Jenkins, who began his appointment on November 30, 2022.

Laura Booberg was introduced as the new Assistant Attorney General assigned to represent the Board.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. Massie opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

Dr. James DeBell spoke about telehealth and the limited access to medical records from facilities to veterinary offices.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Massie stated that a copy of the draft minutes from the October 13, 2022, full board meeting is provided as a handout and is added to the list of draft minutes being approved. Dr. Massie opened the floor to an additions or corrections regarding the draft minutes from the following meetings:

- October 13, 2022, Full Board Meeting
- January 5, 2023, Veterinary Establishment Inspection Committee Meeting
- January 19, 2023, Regulatory Committee Meeting
- March 28, 2023, Regulatory Committee Meeting
- March 28, 2023, Full Board Meeting
- October 10, 2023, Conference Call

Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes are approved as presented.

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Owens provided an update on the agency's activities.

Legislative/Regulatory Report

Ms. Barrett introduced Matt Novak as the new Policy & Economic Analyst for DHP. Ms. Barrett provided information on the following:

- 2023 legislative update
- Petitions for Rulemaking
 - Submission by the VVMA

Ms. Halsey made a motion to deny the petition submitted by the VVMA because the Board believed medical learning requirements contained in the current continuing education require should not be reduced. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cockburn. The motion carried with six votes in favor, and one opposed by Dr. Newman.

- Submission by Gerald Blackburn

Dr. Cockburn made a motion to initiate rulemaking to implement the request and to reduce licensure by endorsement requirements in other parts of the regulations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman. The motion carried with six votes in favor, and one abstention by Dr. Karras.

- Regulatory Update
 - Reviewed current Regulatory Actions
 - Initiation of periodic review of public participation guidelines

Dr. Karras made a motion to initiate the periodic review of the public participation guidelines. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman. The motion carried unanimously.

- Consideration of fast-track regulatory action to allow agency subordinates to hear credentials cases

Ms. Halsey made a motion to amend as presented, via fast-track action, 18VAC150-20-15 to allow agency subordinates to hear credentials cases. The motion was seconded by Dr. Karras. The motion carried unanimously.

- Guidance Document Update

150-2 Guidance on Expanded Duties for Licensed Veterinary Technicians

Ms. Knachel reported that the board office had received several questions related to whether a licensed veterinary technician was allowed to perform certain procedures. The board discussed the various procedures. Staff will update the

guidance document and present a draft to the Board for its consideration at its next meeting.

- Policy review for electronic participation amendment

Dr. Newman made a motion to revise the electronic participation policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Karras. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

- Ms. Hodgdon provided the report on the 2022 Veterinarians and Veterinarian Technicians Healthcare Workforce Data Center Reports.

Consideration of Agency Subordinate Recommendations

Ms. Moss provide information on the agency subordinate recommendations for the following cases:

- Luke Delpo, Veterinarian, Case 210966 and
- Westlake Veterinary Medical Center, Case 210965
- Karen Baum, Veterinarian, Case 219564 and
- Little Doc's Veterinary Care, Incorporated, Case 219563
- Eclectic Equine Services, Case 220672

Ms. Halsey made a motion to accept the Agency Subordinate recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cockburn. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items continued

- Ms. Knachel reported that there has been preliminary discussion related to a proposed licensing reciprocity agreement between Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia.
- In addition, Ms. Knachel discussed with the Board a question received from the Virginia Racing Commission about whether unlicensed individuals are allowed to use of Magna Wave Therapy on animals. The Board determined that if the therapy falls within the scope of the practice definition found in § 54.1-3800 of the Code of Virginia then the use of magna wave therapy would be considered the practice of veterinary medicine and require a license.

Board Counsel's Report

Ms. Booberg gave an update on the appeal of a discipline case.

President's Report

Dr. Massie had no information to report to the Board.

Board of Health Professions' Report

Dr. Karras had no information to report to the Board.

Staff Reports

- Ms. Knachel provided updates on licensure statistics and outreach activities.
- Dr. Cockburn reported on the 2023 Annual American Association of Veterinary Boards AAVSB conference in Kansas City, MO.
- Ms. Moss provided an update on open and closed discipline cases.

New Business

Elections

Dr. Massie provided information from the bylaws regarding officer elections.

- President
Dr. Karras made a motion to nominate Dr. Bailey to serve as President which was seconded by Dr. Cockburn.

Dr. Bailey made a motion to nominate Dr. Massie to serve as President which was seconded by Dr. Newman seconded the motion.

No further nominations were received. Ms. Knachel did a roll call. Dr. Massie received a majority of votes with Dr. Linas abstaining. Dr. Massie will complete his current term as President and begin a new term beginning January 1, 2024. President.

- Vice-President
Dr. Cockburn made a motion to nominate Dr. Bailey to serve as Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman. No other nominations were received. Voting by roll-call ballot was unanimous and the motion carried for Dr. Bailey to serve a one-year term as Vice-President beginning January 1, 2024.
- Secretary
Dr. Cockburn made a motion to nominate Dr. Linas to serve as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Karras. No other nominations were received. Voting by roll-call ballot was unanimous and the motion carried for Dr. Linas to serve a one-year term as Secretary beginning January 1, 2024.

Next Meeting

The next full board meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2024.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. Massie adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Board President

Leslie L. Knachel, MPH
Executive Director

Current Regulatory Actions

Current Actions		
Action Title	Latest Stage	Status
Reduction of requirements for licensure by endorsement	NOIRA	Secretary of Health and Human Resources review in progress.
Regulatory amendments to allow agency subordinates to hear credentials cases	Fast-Track	Secretary of Health and Human Resources review in progress.
Implementation of 2022 Periodic Review Changes	NOIRA	Secretary of Health and Human Resources review in progress.

2024 SESSION

HB 848 Veterinary medicine; traineeships.

Introduced by: [Will Davis](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Veterinary medicine; traineeships. Allows any veterinary medicine licensure applicant enrolled in a traineeship program to engage in the limited practice of veterinary medicine, as that term is defined by the Board of Veterinary Medicine, under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

FULL TEXT

[01/09/24 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24102313D](#) [pdf](#) | [impact statement](#)

HISTORY

01/09/24 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24102313D

[01/09/24 House: Referred to Committee on General Laws](#)

24102313D

HOUSE BILL NO. 848

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 9, 2024

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-3805.3, relating to veterinary medicine; traineeships.*

Patron—Davis

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-3805.3 as follows:
§ 54.1-3805.3. *Traineeships.***

The Board may provide for the limited practice of veterinary medicine, as that term is defined by the Board, by a veterinary medicine licensure applicant enrolled in a traineeship program under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

2. That the Board of Veterinary Medicine shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.

INTRODUCED

HB848

2024 SESSION

HB 1306 Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; satellite offices.

Introduced by: [Robert D. Orrock, Sr.](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; satellite offices. Permits the Board of Veterinary Medicine to regulate, inspect, and register all satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

FULL TEXT

01/10/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104325D [pdf](#) | [impact statement](#)

HISTORY

01/10/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104325D

01/10/24 House: Committee Referral Pending

24104325D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1306

Offered January 10, 2024

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-3804 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; satellite offices.*

Patron—Orrock

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-3804 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-3804. Specific powers of Board.

In addition to the powers granted in § 54.1-2400, the Board shall have the following specific powers and duties:

1. To establish essential requirements and standards for approval of veterinary programs.

2. To establish and monitor programs for the practical training of qualified students of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in programs of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology at institutions of higher education.

3. To regulate, inspect, and register all establishments ~~and~~, premises, *and satellite offices* where veterinary medicine is practiced.

4. To establish requirements for the licensure of persons engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, pursuant to § 54.1-3800, as part of a veterinary medical education program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education and located in the Commonwealth.

2. That the Board of Veterinary Medicine shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.

INTRODUCED

HB1306

2024 SESSION

SB 663 Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; veterinary satellite offices.

Introduced by: [T. Travis Hackworth](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; veterinary satellite offices. Requires the Board of Veterinary Medicine to regulate, inspect, and register all satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations within 280 days to implement the provisions of the bill.

FULL TEXT

[01/16/24 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 24104369D](#) pdf

HISTORY

01/16/24 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 24104369D

[01/16/24 Senate: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources](#)

24104369D

SENATE BILL NO. 663

Offered January 16, 2024

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-3804 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; veterinary satellite offices.

Patron—Hackworth

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-3804 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-3804. Specific powers of Board.

In addition to the powers granted in § 54.1-2400, the Board shall have the following specific powers and duties:

- 1. To establish essential requirements and standards for approval of veterinary programs.
- 2. To establish and monitor programs for the practical training of qualified students of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in programs of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology at institutions of higher education.
- 3. To regulate, inspect, and register all establishments and, premises, and satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced.
- 4. To establish requirements for the licensure of persons engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, pursuant to § 54.1-3800, as part of a veterinary medical education program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education and located in the Commonwealth.

2. That the Board of Veterinary Medicine shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.

INTRODUCED

SB663

2024 SESSION

HB 1354 Declawing cats; prohibition; civil penalty.

Introduced by: [Marty Martinez](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Declawing cats; prohibition; civil penalty. Makes unlawful the practice of declawing cats except as necessary for a therapeutic purpose, as defined in the bill, and creates a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation, \$1,000 for the second violation, and \$2,500 for the third or any subsequent violation. The bill also entitles any animal control officer, humane investigator, or state or local law-enforcement officer to bring a civil action for a violation of this section.

FULL TEXT

[01/12/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104582D](#) pdf

HISTORY

01/12/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104582D

01/12/24 House: Committee Referral Pending

24104582D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1354

Offered January 12, 2024

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 3.2-6586.1, relating to declawing cats; prohibition; civil penalty.*

Patron—Martinez

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 3.2-6586.1 as follows:

§ 3.2-6586.1. Declawing cats; civil penalty.

A. As used in this section:

"Cat" means any domesticated species of the family Felidae and does not include any wild or nonnative species of the family Felidae.

"Declawing procedure" means (i) an onychectomy, a dactylectomy, a phalangectomy, or any other procedure that removes a portion of the paw or digit of a cat in order to remove a claw; (ii) a tendonectomy or any other procedure that cuts or modifies the tendon of the limb, paw, or digit of a cat in order to prohibit the normal movement of a claw; or (iii) any procedure that prevents the normal functioning of one or more claws of a cat. "Declawing procedure" does not include nail filing, nail trimming, or the placement of temporary nail caps on one or more claws of a cat.

"Therapeutic purpose" means any action intended to address an existing or recurring infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in an animal's claw, nail bed, or toe bone that jeopardizes the animal's health and for which addressing the infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition is a medical necessity. "Therapeutic purpose" does not include any action performed for cosmetic or aesthetic reasons or reasons of convenience in the keeping or handling of a cat.

B. It is unlawful to perform a declawing procedure on a cat, except that a person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine may perform such a procedure if it is necessary for a therapeutic purpose.

C. Any person who violates the provisions of this section is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation, \$1,000 for the second violation, and \$2,500 for the third or any subsequent violation. Any animal control officer, humane investigator, or state or local law-enforcement officer is entitled to bring a civil action for a violation of this section. A civil penalty assessed pursuant to this section shall be paid into the treasury of the locality where such civil action is brought and used for the purpose of defraying the costs of local animal control.

INTRODUCED

HB1354

2024 SESSION**HB 1387 Department of Health Professions; veterinary medicine; exceptions for care of animals injured.**

Introduced by: [James A. "Jay" Leftwich](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Department of Health Professions; veterinary medicine; exceptions for care of animals injured in line of duty. Provides an exception to the unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine for any law-enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel who provides emergency treatment to any animal in his care that is injured in the line of duty.

FULL TEXT

[01/16/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104045D](#) pdf

HISTORY

01/16/24 House: Presented and ordered printed 24104045D

01/16/24 House: Committee Referral Pending

24104045D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1387

Offered January 16, 2024

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-3801 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Department of Health Professions; veterinary medicine; exceptions for care of animals injured in line of duty.*

Patron—Leftwich

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-3801 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-3801. Exceptions.

This chapter shall not apply to:

1. The owner of an animal and the owner's full-time, regular employee caring for and treating the animal belonging to such owner, except where the ownership of the animal was transferred for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of this chapter;

2. Veterinarians licensed in other states called in actual consultation with veterinarians licensed in the Commonwealth who do not open an office or appoint a place to practice within the Commonwealth;

3. Veterinarians employed by the United States or by the Commonwealth while actually engaged in the performance of their official duties, with the exception of those engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, pursuant to § 54.1-3800, as part of a veterinary medical education program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education and located in the Commonwealth;

4. Veterinarians providing free care in underserved areas of Virginia who (i) do not regularly practice veterinary medicine in Virginia, (ii) hold a current valid license or certificate to practice veterinary medicine in another state, territory, district, or possession of the United States, (iii) volunteer to provide free care in an underserved area of the Commonwealth under the auspices of a publicly supported all volunteer, nonprofit organization that sponsors the provision of health care to populations of underserved people, (iv) file copies of their licenses or certificates issued in such other jurisdiction with the Board, (v) notify the Board at least five business days prior to the voluntary provision of services of the dates and location of such service, and (vi) acknowledge, in writing, that such licensure exemption shall only be valid, in compliance with the Board's regulations, during the limited period that such free health care is made available through the volunteer, nonprofit organization on the dates and at the location filed with the Board. The Board may deny the right to practice in Virginia to any veterinarian whose license has been previously suspended or revoked, who has been convicted of a felony, or who is otherwise found to be in violation of applicable laws or regulations. However, the Board shall allow a veterinarian who meets the above criteria to provide volunteer services without prior notice for a period of up to three days, provided the nonprofit organization verifies that the practitioner has a valid, unrestricted license in another state; ~~or~~

5. Persons purchasing, possessing, and administering drugs and biological products in a public or private animal shelter as defined in § 3.2-6500, provided that such purchase, possession, and administration is in compliance with § 54.1-3423; *or*

6. *Any law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 9.1-101, or firefighter or emergency medical services personnel, as those terms are defined in § 9.1-300, who provides emergency treatment to any animal in his care that is injured in the line of duty.*

INTRODUCED

HB1387

1/16/24 14:34

2024 SESSION**SB 412 Off-premises animal vaccination and microchip services; releasing agencies.**Introduced by: **Jennifer B. Boysko** | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

Off-premises animal vaccination and microchip services; releasing agencies. Authorizes releasing agencies, in conjunction with rabies clinics conducted pursuant to state law, to administer certain vaccinations for dogs and cats and insert microchips into animals, provided that all vaccinations and microchips are administered in accordance with a protocol approved by a licensed veterinarian. Any such releasing agencies must (i) provide the owner or custodian of the animal with an individual record of the vaccinations administered or the microchip type, microchip number, and location of the microchip placement; (ii) ensure that a licensed veterinary facility retains a copy of the individual record; and (iii) upon the request of an animal's owner or custodian, an animal control officer, a law-enforcement official, the State Veterinarian or his representative, or an official of the Department of Health, provide the name and contact information of the licensed veterinary facility where a copy of the individual record is retained.

FULL TEXT**01/09/24 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24103053D** [pdf](#)**HISTORY**

01/09/24 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24103053D

01/09/24 Senate: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

24103053D

SENATE BILL NO. 412

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 9, 2024

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 3.2-6523.1, relating to off-premises animal vaccination and microchip services; releasing agencies.

Patron—Boysko

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 3.2-6523.1 as follows:

§ 3.2-6523.1. Vaccination and microchip services operated by releasing agencies.

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 54.1-3801, 18VAC150-20-180, or any other provision of law, a releasing agency may, in conjunction with a rabies clinic conducted pursuant to § 3.2-6521, perform the following services off the premises of a licensed veterinary facility:

1. Vaccinate dogs against canine distemper virus, canine adenovirus, canine parainfluenza, and canine parvovirus (DAPP) and cats against feline viral rhinotracheitis, feline calicivirus, and feline panleukopenia (FVRCP) to prevent the risk of communicable diseases, provided that all vaccines are administered in accordance with a protocol approved by a licensed veterinarian; and

2. Microchip an animal, provided that all microchips are administered in accordance with a protocol approved by a licensed veterinarian.

B. In addition to the requirements of § 3.2-6521, any releasing agency performing vaccination and microchip services pursuant to subsection A shall provide the owner or custodian of the animal with an individual record of the vaccinations administered or the microchip type, microchip number, and location of the microchip placement. The releasing agency shall ensure that a licensed veterinary facility retains a copy of the individual record.

C. Any releasing agency performing vaccination and microchip services pursuant to subsection A shall, upon the request of an animal's owner or custodian, an animal control officer, a law-enforcement official, the State Veterinarian or his representative, or an official of the Department of Health, provide the name and contact information of the licensed veterinary facility where a copy of the individual record is retained pursuant to subsection B.

INTRODUCED

SB412

2024 SESSION

SB 682 Health professions; universal licensure; requirements.

Introduced by: [David R. Suetterlein](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Health professions; universal licensure; requirements. Requires health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions to recognize licenses or certifications issued by other United States jurisdictions, as defined in the bill, as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill also requires such health regulatory boards to recognize work experience as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill does not apply to licensure for physicians or dentists.

FULL TEXT

[01/18/24 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 24104198D](#) pdf

HISTORY

01/18/24 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 24104198D

[01/18/24 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health](#)

24104198D

SENATE BILL NO. 682

Offered January 18, 2024

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-2408.5, relating to health professions; universal licensure; requirements.

Patron—Suetterlein

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-2408.5 as follows:

§ 54.1-2408.5. Universal license recognition.

A. For the purposes of this section, "United States jurisdiction" means any state, territory, possession, or jurisdiction of the United States.

B. The health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions shall, upon application by an individual licensed or certified in a United States jurisdiction, recognize licenses or certifications issued by such state as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if the following conditions are met:

1. The applicant holds a license or certification that is in good standing, current, and active in another United States Jurisdiction to practice the same profession or occupation;

2. Such licensure or certification required the individual to pass an examination;

3. Licensure or certification in the other state required the applicant to meet substantially equivalent educational standards to those required in the Commonwealth for the same license or certification type;

4. No restriction has been placed on any license or certification ever held by the applicant in another United States jurisdiction or by the federal government;

5. No state, territory, or country has convicted the applicant of any crime involving moral turpitude or that constitutes a felony in the Commonwealth;

6. The applicant provides a report from a national clearinghouse, if such a clearinghouse exists for that profession, or if that information is tracked for that profession, that provides full and complete information on any disciplinary actions taken in other jurisdictions;

7. The applicant has not been the subject of any disciplinary action by their licensing jurisdiction and is not currently the subject of a pending disciplinary action or investigation by their licensing jurisdiction; and

8. The applicant pays all fees required by the applicable board.

B. The health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions may require evidence of active practice in the licensed or certified profession of up to three years prior to application.

C. The health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions shall, upon application by an individual, recognize work experience in another state as fulfillment of qualifications for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if the following conditions are met:

1. The individual worked in another state that does not use a professional or occupational license or government certification to regulate a profession or occupation, but the Commonwealth uses a professional or occupational license or certification to regulate a profession or occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board;

2. The individual has worked in the profession or occupation for at least three years;

3. The individual passes any examination required by the applicable board for licensure or certification; and

4. The individual satisfies the conditions outlined in subdivisions A 4, 5, 6, and 7.

D. The health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions may require an individual seeking a professional or occupational licensure or certification pursuant to this section to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state laws and administrative rules that regulate such profession or occupation if such an examination is required of other applicants for the same license or certification.

E. This section shall not apply to licenses for any doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy licensed pursuant to Chapter 29 (§ 54.1-2900 et seq.) of Title 54.1 or any dentist licensed pursuant to Chapter 27 (§ 54.1-2700 et seq.) of Title 54.1.

F. Licenses and licensing under this section shall supersede and take precedence over any jurisdictional compact the Commonwealth has entered into that becomes effective July 1, 2024, or later.

INTRODUCED

SB682

1/18/24 16:13

2024 SESSION**HJ 43 Study; State Veterinarian; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report.**

Introduced by: [Alfonso H. Lopez](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Study; State Veterinarian; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report. Directs the State Veterinarian to complete a two-year study of the shortage of large animal veterinarians with technical assistance provided by relevant stakeholders, including a member of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules, respectively.

FULL TEXT

01/09/24 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24102352D [pdf](#)

HISTORY

01/09/24 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24102352D

01/09/24 House: Committee Referral Pending

24102352D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 9, 2024

Requesting the State Veterinarian to study the shortage of large animal veterinarians. Report.

Patron—Lopez

Committee Referral Pending

WHEREAS, in 2023 the shortage of rural veterinarians has reached an all-time high as 500 counties in 46 states have been deemed to have a critical shortage of large animal veterinarians; and

WHEREAS, only three to four percent of new veterinary graduates have entered food animal-related practice over the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, by providing preventative care, disease treatment, and strategies for herd health and productivity, large animal veterinarians are a critical resource for farmers; large animal veterinarians can help prevent large scale loss of herds or flocks when a highly transmissible disease sweeps through an area; and

WHEREAS, if the current downward trend in large animal veterinarians continues, there will be cause for concern for a safe food supply, the potential for widespread animal disease outbreaks, and a decline in the economic vitality of rural communities; and

WHEREAS, while the State Veterinarian designates areas of the Commonwealth that have a shortage of large animal veterinarians so students from such areas can apply for partial federal loan forgiveness programs, the current program fails to attract students in such areas of most need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the State Veterinarian be requested to study the shortage of large animal veterinarians.

In conducting his study, the State Veterinarian shall (i) identify ways to strengthen existing debt repayment programs for veterinarians, including making recommendations on how to simplify application criteria, exploring state matching loan repayment programs, limiting barriers for participation, and improving methods for consistent identification of veterinary shortage areas to better target rural communities in need; (ii) examine options for developing programs that offer business support to provide incentives or low-interest business loans for large animal private practices; (iii) identify programs that support a strong pipeline of veterinary students from rural backgrounds and help such students navigate post-secondary education to increase retention; (iv) examine other possible solutions for increasing the number of large animal veterinarians in the Commonwealth, such as expanding veterinary technician-type or physician assistant-type programs to allow large animal veterinarians to expand their scope of practice in rural areas; and (v) reexamine the recommendations from the 2010 study on the shortage of large animal veterinarians published pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 730 of the Acts of Assembly of 2009.

The State Veterinarian shall provide for the meaningful participation of representatives of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine, the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, the Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practitioners, the Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Department of Business Assistance, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission and a member of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the State Veterinarian for this study, upon request.

Upon completion of the study, the State Veterinarian shall submit his report to the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and on Education, and the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and on Education and Health, and these standing committees shall review the findings and recommendations of the report for appropriate legislative, policy, and budgetary implications and action, and make such recommendations as necessary.

The State Veterinarian shall complete his meetings for the first year by November 30, 2024, and for the second year by November 30, 2025, and the State Veterinarian shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and report of his findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document for each year. The executive summaries and reports shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

HJ43

1/15/24 12:14

2024 SESSION**SJ 15 Study; Board of Veterinary Medicine; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report.**

Introduced by: **T. Travis Hackworth** | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Study; Board of Veterinary Medicine; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report. Directs the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to complete a two-year study of the shortage of large animal veterinarians, with technical assistance provided by relevant stakeholders, including a member of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules, respectively.

FULL TEXT

01/05/24 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24104615D [pdf](#)

HISTORY

01/05/24 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/10/24 24104615D

01/05/24 Senate: Referred to Committee on Rules

24104615D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 5, 2024

Requesting the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to study the shortage of large animal veterinarians. Report.

Patron—Hackworth

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, as of 2023, the shortage of rural veterinarians has reached an all-time high as 500 counties in 46 states have been deemed to have a critical shortage of large animal veterinarians; and

WHEREAS, only three to four percent of new veterinary graduates have entered food animal-related practice over the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, by providing preventative care, disease treatment, and strategies for herd health and productivity, large animal veterinarians are a critical resource for farmers; large animal veterinarians can help prevent large-scale loss of herds or flocks when a highly transmissible disease sweeps through an area; and

WHEREAS, if the current downward trend in large animal veterinarians continues, there will be cause for concern for a safe food supply, the potential for widespread animal disease outbreaks, and a decline in the economic vitality of rural communities; and

WHEREAS, while the State Veterinarian designates areas of the Commonwealth that have a shortage of large animal veterinarians so students from such areas can apply for partial federal loan forgiveness programs, the current program fails to attract students in such areas of most need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, be requested to study the shortage of large animal veterinarians.

In conducting the study, the Board of Veterinary Medicine and the State Veterinarian shall (i) identify ways to strengthen existing debt repayment programs for veterinarians, including making recommendations on how to simplify application criteria, exploring state matching loan repayment programs, limiting barriers for participation, and improving methods for consistent identification of veterinary shortage areas to better target rural communities in need; (ii) examine options for developing programs that offer business support to provide incentives or low-interest business loans for large animal private practices; (iii) identify programs that support a strong pipeline of veterinary students from rural backgrounds and help such students navigate post-secondary education to increase retention; (iv) examine other possible solutions for increasing the number of large animal veterinarians in the Commonwealth, such as expanding veterinary technician-type or physician assistant-type programs to allow large animal veterinarians to expand their scope of practice in rural areas; and (v) reexamine the recommendations from the 2010 study on the shortage of large animal veterinarians published pursuant to House Joint Resolution 730 (2009).

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Board of Veterinary Medicine and the State Veterinarian by the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine, the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, the Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practitioners, the Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Virginia Department of Business Assistance, Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission and a member of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Board of Veterinary Medicine for this study, upon request.

The Board of Veterinary Medicine shall complete its meetings for the first year by November 30, 2024, and for the second year by November 30, 2025, and the Board of Veterinary Medicine shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document for each year. The executive summaries and reports shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

SJ15

1/14/24 10:40

Veterinary Medicine Monthly Snapshot for December 2023

Veterinary Medicine received more cases in December than closed. Veterinary Medicine closed 7 patient care cases and 13 non-patient care cases for a total of 20 cases.

Cases Closed	
Patient Care	7
Non-Patient Care	13
Total	20

Veterinary Medicine has received 17 patient care cases and 4 non-patient care cases for a total of 21 cases.

Cases Received	
Patient Care	17
Non-Patient Care	4
Total	21

As of December 31, 2023, there were 139 patient care cases open and 109 non-patient care cases open for a total of 248 cases.

Cases Open	
Patient Care	139
Non-Patient Care	109
Total	248

There are 9,297 Veterinary Medicine licensees as of December 31, 2023. The number of current licenses are broken down by profession in the following chart.

Current Licenses	
Equine Dental Technician	21
Veterinarian	5,083
Veterinary Establishment – Ambulatory	329
Veterinary Establishment – Stationary	942
Veterinary Faculty	133
Veterinary Intern/Resident	47
Veterinary Technician	2,742
Total for Veterinary Medicine	9,297

There are 37 licenses issued for Veterinary Medicine for the month of December. The number of current licenses are broken down by profession in the following chart.

Licenses Issued	
Veterinarian	16
Veterinary Establishment – Ambulatory	1
Veterinary Establishment – Stationary	4
Veterinary Faculty	3

Veterinary Intern/Resident	1
Veterinary Technician	12
Total for Veterinary Medicine	37