

SESSION OF 2015

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 189

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture

Brief*

SB 189 would require any person who practices veterinary medicine on client-owned animals as a part of the person's employment at a school of veterinary medicine in Kansas to be a licensed veterinarian or possess an institutional license, beginning July 1, 2016. The fee for an application for an institutional license would be no less than \$50 nor more than \$250. The annual fee for renewal would be no less than \$20 nor more than \$100. Both fees would be established by the Board of Veterinary Examiners (Board). The bill also would require notice of the expiration of institutional licenses to be mailed to those holding institutional licenses and to the school of veterinary medicine no later than 30 days prior to the license expiration.

In addition, the bill would establish the procedure and requirements necessary to obtain from the Board an institutional license to practice veterinary medicine while employed by a school of veterinary medicine in the state. The bill would require the applicant to:

- Have a degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent;
- Have passed the Kansas veterinary legal practice examination;
- Be a person of good moral character;

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>.

- Have paid the license application fee;
- Provide proof of employment with a school of veterinary medicine within Kansas; and
- Certify that the person understands and agrees the institutional license is valid only for the practice of veterinary medicine associated with employment with the school of veterinary medicine.

The bill also would permit the Board to establish rules and regulations to require additional information or proof.

Further, on and after July 1, 2016, the Kansas Veterinary Practice Act (Act) would be amended to specifically permit:

- The practice of veterinary medicine at a school of veterinary medicine in Kansas by a person possessing an institutional license;
- Any person, including a member of the faculty, to give lectures, instructions, or demonstrations at the school of veterinary medicine or in connection with continuing education courses, except when it involves the practice of veterinary medicine on client-owned animals; or
- The temporary practice of veterinary medicine at a school of veterinary medicine, for a period of 30 days per calendar year, by a person eligible to obtain a veterinary or institutional license upon examination and application.

Under the bill, the Board, by rules and regulations, would be allowed to waive the payment of a renewal fee for an institutional license during the period when the person is on active military duty during a time of national emergency for a period not to exceed three years.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

At the Senate Committee hearing on the bill, proponents included representatives of the Board, the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), and the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University.

The Senate Committee heard testimony that, while violations of the Act by persons practicing veterinary medicine at a school of veterinary medicine are limited, the bill would give authority to the Board to investigate those matters and to take any appropriate disciplinary action against anyone who violates the Act. Another conferee explained the Board is charged to ensure standards of quality care and competency are maintained as well as to take remedial action against veterinarians who violate provisions of the Act. The Senate Committee learned the Board has jurisdiction only of those it licenses and has no authority over non-licensed veterinarians.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill states the KDA believes the fiscal effect of the bill on expenditures would be negligible and would increase fee fund revenue by approximately \$4,995 in both FY 2016 and FY 2017. The revenue, based on the number of licenses as estimated by the Board and the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, includes the following:

Number of Licenses	Revenue
Clinicians (41 @ \$95)	\$ 3,895
Interns (7 @ \$50)	350
Residents (8 @ \$50)	400
2nd Year Residents (7 @ \$25)	175
3rd Year Residents (7 @ \$25)	175
Total	\$ 4,995