

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 747
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/5/93

Short Title: NC Veterinary Practice Act.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 6, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA VETERINARY PRACTICE ACT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 90-181 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-181. Definitions.

When used in this Article these words and phrases shall be defined as follows:

- (1) 'Accredited school of veterinary medicine' means any veterinary college or division of a university or college that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent and that conforms to the standards required for accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association.
- (2) 'Animal' means any animal, mammal other than man and includes birds, fish, and reptiles, wild or domestic, living or dead.
- (3) 'Board' means the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board.
- (4) ~~'Licensed veterinarian' means a person who is validly and currently licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this State.~~
- (5) 'Person' means any individual, firm, partnership, association, joint venture, cooperative or corporation, or any other group or combination acting in concert; and whether or not acting as a principal, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, or as any kind of legal or personal representative, or as the successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, servant, employee, director, officer, or any other representative of such person.
- (6) 'Practice of veterinary medicine' means:

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- 1 a. To diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve, or prevent animal
2 disease, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental
3 conditions; including the prescription or administration of any
4 drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or
5 other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique on any
6 animal.
- 7 b. To represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, an
8 ability and willingness to do any act described in ~~paragraph a-~~
9 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision.
- 10 c. To use any title, words, abbreviation, or letters in a manner or
11 under circumstances which induce the belief that the person
12 using them is qualified to do any act described in ~~paragraph a-~~
13 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision.
- 14 (7) ~~'Veterinarian,' 'doctor of veterinary medicine,' 'D.V.M.' or equivalent title~~
15 ~~means a person who has received a doctor's degree in veterinary~~
16 ~~medicine from an accredited school of veterinary medicine ~~or~~ and who~~
17 ~~now has a valid North Carolina license to~~ is licensed by the Board to
18 practice veterinary medicine.
- 19 (7a) 'Veterinary license' or 'license' means a license to practice veterinary
20 medicine issued by the Board.
- 21 (8) 'Veterinary medicine' includes veterinary surgery, obstetrics, dentistry,
22 and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine.
- 23 (9) 'Veterinary student intern' means a person who is enrolled in an
24 accredited veterinary college and who has satisfactorily completed his
25 third year of veterinary college ~~education.~~ education, and who is
26 registered with the Board as a veterinary student intern.
- 27 (10) 'Veterinary student preceptee' means a person who is pursuing a
28 doctorate degree in an accredited school of veterinary medicine which
29 has a preceptor or extern program and who has completed the
30 academic requirements of ~~such program.~~ that program, and who is
31 registered with the Board as a veterinary student preceptee.
- 32 (11) 'Veterinary technician' ~~or 'animal technician'~~ shall mean means:
- 33 a. ~~A~~ A person who has successfully completed a post-high school
34 course in the care and treatment of animals which conforms to
35 the standards required for accreditation by the American
36 Veterinary Medical ~~Association.~~ Association and who is
37 registered with the Board as a veterinary technician; or
- 38 b. A person who holds a degree in veterinary medicine from a
39 college of veterinary medicine recognized by the Board for
40 licensure of veterinarians and who is registered with the Board
41 as a veterinary technician.
- 42 (12) 'Limited veterinary license' means a license issued by the Board under
43 authority of this Article that specifically, by its terms, restricts the
44 scope or areas of practice of veterinary medicine by the holder of the

1 limited license; provided, that no limited license shall confer or denote
2 an area of specialty of the holder of this limited veterinary license; and
3 provided further, that unless otherwise provided by Board rule, the
4 licensing requirements shall be identical to those specified for a
5 veterinary license.

6 (13) 'Animal dentistry' means the treatment, extraction, cleaning,
7 adjustment, or 'floating' (filing or smoothing) of an animal's teeth, and
8 treatment of an animal's gums.

9 (14) 'Cruelty to animals' means to willfully overdrive, overload, wound,
10 injure, torture, torment, deprive of necessary sustenance, cruelly beat,
11 needlessly mutilate or kill any animal, or cause or procure any of these
12 acts to be done to an animal; provided, that the words 'torture,'
13 'torment,' or 'cruelty' include every act, omission, or neglect causing or
14 permitting unjustifiable physical pain, suffering, or death.

15 (15) 'Veterinarian-client-patient relationship' means that:

16 a. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making
17 medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the
18 need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or other
19 caretaker) has agreed to follow the instruction of the
20 veterinarian.

21 b. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian
22 to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the
23 medical condition of the animal. This means that the
24 veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with
25 the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination
26 of the animal, or by medically appropriate and timely visits to
27 the premises where the animal is kept.

28 c. The practicing veterinarian is readily available or provides for
29 follow up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen
30 of therapy."

31 Sec. 2. Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by
32 adding a new section to read:

33 **"§ 90-181.1. Practice facility names and levels of service.**

34 (a) In order to accurately inform the public of the levels of service offered, a
35 veterinary practice facility shall use in its name one of the descriptive terms defined in
36 subsection (b) of this section. The name of a veterinary practice facility shall, at all
37 times, accurately reflect the level of service being offered to the public.

38 (b) The following definitions are applicable to this section:

39 (1) 'Animal health center' or 'animal medical center' means a veterinary
40 practice facility in which consultative, clinical, and hospital services
41 are rendered and in which a large staff of basic and applied veterinary
42 scientists perform significant research and conduct advanced
43 professional educational programs.

- 1 (2) 'Veterinary hospital' or 'animal hospital' means a veterinary practice
2 facility in which the practice conducted includes the confinement as
3 well as the treatment of patients.
- 4 (3) 'Veterinary clinic' or 'animal clinic' means a veterinary practice facility
5 in which the practice conducted is essentially an out-patient practice.
- 6 (4) 'Office' means a veterinary practice facility where a limited or
7 consultative practice is conducted and which provides no facilities for
8 the housing of patients.
- 9 (5) 'Mobile facility' means a veterinary practice conducted from a vehicle
10 with special medical or surgical facilities or from a vehicle suitable
11 only for making house or farm calls; provided, the veterinary medical
12 practice shall have a permanent base of operation with a published
13 address and telephone facilities for making appointments or
14 responding to emergency situations.
- 15 (6) 'Emergency facility' means a veterinary medical service whose primary
16 function is the receiving, treatment, and monitoring of emergency
17 patients during its specified hours of operation. At this veterinary
18 practice facility a doctor is in attendance at all hours of operation and
19 sufficient staff is available to provide timely and appropriate
20 emergency care. A veterinary emergency service may be an
21 independent after-hours service, an independent 24-hour service, or
22 part of a full-service hospital or large teaching institution.
- 23 (7) 'On-call emergency service' means a veterinary medical service whose
24 doctors and staff are not on the premises during all hours of operation,
25 or whose doctors leave after a patient is treated. A doctor shall be
26 available to be reached by telephone for after-hours emergencies.

27 (c) If a veterinary practice facility uses as its name the name of the veterinarian
28 or veterinarians owning or operating the facility, the name of the veterinary practice
29 facility shall also include a descriptive term from those listed in subsection (b) of this
30 section to disclose the level of service being offered.

31 (d) Those facilities existing and approved by the Board as of December 31, 1993,
32 may continue to use their approved name or designation until there is a partial or total
33 change of ownership of the facility, at which time the name of the veterinary practice
34 facility shall be changed, as necessary, to comply with this section."

35 Sec. 3. G.S. 90-182(a) reads as rewritten:

36 "(a) In order to properly regulate the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery,
37 there is established a Board to be known as the North Carolina Veterinary Medical
38 Board which shall consist of seven members.

39 Four members shall be appointed by the Governor. Three of these members shall
40 have been legal residents of and licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this State for
41 not less than five years preceding their appointment. The other member shall not be
42 licensed or registered under the Article and shall represent the interest of the public at
43 large.

1 The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall each appoint to the
2 Board one member who shall have been a resident of and licensed to practice veterinary
3 medicine in this State for not less than five years preceding his appointment.

4 In addition to the six members appointed as provided above, the Commissioner of
5 Agriculture shall biennially appoint to the Board the State Veterinarian or licensed
6 veterinarian from a staff of a North Carolina department or institution. This member
7 shall have been a legal resident of and licensed to practice veterinary medicine in North
8 Carolina for not less than five years preceding his appointment.

9 Every member shall, within 30 days after notice of appointment, appear before any
10 person authorized to administer the oath of office and take an oath to faithfully
11 discharge the duties of ~~his~~the office."

12 Sec. 4. G.S. 90-182(b) reads as rewritten:

13 "(b) No person who has been appointed to the Board shall continue his
14 membership on the Board if during the term of his appointment he shall:

15 (1) Transfer his legal residence to another state; or

16 (2) Own or be employed by any wholesale or jobbing house dealing in
17 supplies, equipment, or instruments used or useful in the practice of
18 veterinary medicine; or

19 (3) Have his license to practice veterinary medicine ~~reinstated~~revoked for
20 any of the causes listed in G.S. 90-187.8."

21 Sec. 5. G.S. 90-183 reads as rewritten:

22 **"§ 90-183. Meeting of Board.**

23 The Board shall meet at least ~~once each~~four times per year at the time and place
24 fixed by the Board. Other meetings may be called by the president of the Board by
25 giving notice as may be required by rule. A majority of the Board shall constitute a
26 quorum. Meetings shall be open and public except that the Board may meet in closed
27 session to prepare, approve, administer, or grade examinations, or to deliberate the
28 qualification of an applicant for license or the disposition of a proceeding to discipline
29 a licensed veterinarian.

30 At its ~~annual meeting~~last meeting of the fiscal year the Board shall organize by
31 ~~electing~~electing, for the following fiscal year, a president, a vice-president, a secretary-
32 treasurer, and such other officers as may be prescribed by rule. Officers of the Board
33 shall serve for terms of one year and until a successor is elected, without limitation on
34 the number of terms an officer may serve. The president shall serve as chairman of
35 Board meetings."

36 Sec. 6. G.S. 90-184 reads as rewritten:

37 **"§ 90-184. Compensation of the Board.**

38 In addition to such reimbursement for travel and other expenses as is normally
39 allowed to State employees, each member of the Board, for each day or substantial
40 portion thereof ~~he~~that the member is engaged in the work of the Board may receive a
41 per diem allowance, as determined by the Board in accordance with G.S. 93B-5. None
42 of the expenses of the Board or of the members shall be paid by the State."

43 Sec. 7. G.S. 90-185 reads as rewritten:

44 **"§ 90-185. General powers of the Board.**

1 The Board ~~shall have the power to:~~ may:

- 2 (1) Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for
3 a license to practice veterinary medicine in the State.
- 4 (2) Issue, renew, deny, suspend, or revoke ~~licenses~~ licenses and limited
5 veterinary licenses, and issue, deny, or revoke temporary permits to
6 practice veterinary medicine in the State or otherwise discipline
7 licensed veterinarians consistent with the provisions of Chapter 150B
8 of the General Statutes and of this Article and the rules and regulations
9 adopted thereunder.
- 10 (3) Conduct investigations for the purpose of discovering violations of this
11 Article or grounds for disciplining licensed veterinarians.
- 12 (4) Employ full-time or part-time personnel – professional, clerical, or
13 special – necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Article and to
14 purchase or rent necessary office space, equipment and ~~supplies.~~
15 supplies, and purchase liability or other insurance to cover the
16 activities of the Board, its operations or its employees.
- 17 (5) Appoint from its own membership one or more members to act as
18 representatives of the Board at any meeting within or without the State
19 where such representation is deemed desirable.
- 20 (6) Adopt, amend, or repeal all rules necessary for its government and all
21 regulations necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Article,
22 including the establishment and publication of standards of
23 professional conduct for the practice of veterinary medicine.

24 The powers enumerated above are granted for the purpose of enabling the Board
25 effectively to supervise the practice of veterinary medicine and are to be construed
26 liberally to accomplish this objective."

27 Sec. 8. G.S. 90-186 reads as rewritten:

28 "**§ 90-186. Special powers of the Board.**

29 In addition to the powers set forth in G.S. 90-185 above, the Board ~~shall have the~~
30 ~~power:~~ may:

- 31 (1) ~~To fix~~ Fix minimum standards for continuing veterinary medical
32 education for veterinarians and technicians, which standards shall be a
33 condition precedent to the renewal of a veterinary license, limited
34 license, veterinary faculty certificate, zoo veterinary certificate, or
35 veterinary technician registration, respectively, under this Article;
- 36 (2) ~~To inspect~~ Inspect any hospitals, clinics, mobile units or other ~~places~~
37 ~~utilized~~ facilities used by any practicing veterinarian, either by a
38 member of the Board or its authorized representatives, ~~which inspection~~
39 ~~shall be~~ for the purpose of reporting such the results of the inspection
40 to the Board on a form prescribed by the Board ~~or seeking disciplinary~~
41 action in cases of violations of practice or reasonable health or sanitary
42 regulations duly established and published by the Board or other duly
43 constituted State authorities having jurisdiction in such matters; ~~and seeking~~
44 disciplinary action for violations of health, sanitary, and medical waste

1 disposal rules of the Board affecting the practice of veterinary
2 medicine, or violations of rules of any county, state, or federal
3 department or agency having jurisdiction in these areas of health,
4 sanitation, and medical waste disposal that relate to or affect the
5 practice of veterinary medicine;

6 (3) Upon complaint or information received by the Board, to prohibit
7 through summary emergency order of the Board, prior to a hearing, the
8 operation of any veterinary practice facility that the Board determines
9 is endangering, or may endanger, the public health or safety or the
10 welfare and safety of animals, and suspend the license of the
11 veterinarian operating the veterinary practice facility, provided that
12 upon the issuance of any summary emergency order, the Board shall
13 initiate, within 10 days, a notice of hearing under the administrative
14 rules issued pursuant to this Article and Chapter 150B of the General
15 Statutes, for an administrative hearing on the alleged violation;

16 (3) (4) ~~To provide~~ Provide special registration for 'animal-veterinary
17 technicians,' 'veterinary student interns' and 'veterinary student
18 preceptees' as defined in G.S. 90-181, and to adopt regulations
19 concerning the training, registration and service limits of such
20 assistants while employed by and acting under the supervision and
21 responsibility of licensed veterinarians and to have exclusive
22 jurisdiction in determining eligibility, and qualification requirements
23 and in granting or refusing to grant, or to suspend or revoke
24 registration, provided that any suspension or revocation of a special
25 registration issued under this section shall be conducted under the
26 provisions of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. ~~The Board shall~~
27 ~~have power to require a registration fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00)~~
28 ~~for original registration and not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00) for renewal.~~
29 Renewals of registrations for veterinary technicians shall be required
30 at least every 24 months, provided that the certificate of registration
31 for the veterinary technician is otherwise eligible for renewal. The
32 Board shall have the authority to establish a late fee for certificate
33 renewals, the applications for which are received beyond the
34 expiration date of the certificate;

35 (5) Provide, pursuant to administrative rules, requirements for the inactive
36 status of licenses and limited veterinary licenses;

37 (6) Set and require fees, respectively, pursuant to administrative rule, for:
38 a. Issuance of an individual and professional corporation
39 application or renewal, in an amount not to exceed one hundred
40 fifty dollars (\$150.00);
41 b. Administering a North Carolina license examination, in an
42 amount not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00);

- 1 c. Securing and administering national examinations, including
2 the National Board Examination or the Clinical Competency
3 Test, in amounts directly related to the costs to the Board;
4 d. Inspection of a veterinary practice facility in an amount not to
5 exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00);
6 e. Issuance or renewal of a license or a limited license in an
7 amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00);
8 f. Issuance or renewal of a veterinary faculty certificate, in an
9 amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00);
10 g. Issuance or renewal of a zoo veterinary certificate, in an amount
11 not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00);
12 h. Reinstatement of an expired license, a limited license, a
13 veterinary faculty certificate, a zoo veterinary certificate, a
14 veterinary technician registration, or a professional corporation
15 registration in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars
16 (\$100.00);
17 i. Issuance or renewal of a veterinary technician registration, in an
18 amount not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00);
19 j. Issuance of a veterinary student intern registration, in an
20 amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);
21 k. Issuance of a veterinary student preceptee registration, in an
22 amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);
23 l. Late fee for renewal of a license, a limited license, a veterinary
24 technician registration, a veterinary faculty certificate, a zoo
25 veterinary certificate, or a professional corporation registration,
26 in an amount not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00);
27 m. Issuance of a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine
28 in an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00);
29 and
30 n. Providing copies, upon request, of Board publications, rosters,
31 or other materials available for distribution from the Board, in
32 an amount determined by the Board that is reasonably related to
33 the costs of providing those copies.
34 (7) Pursuant to administrative rule, to assess and recover against persons
35 holding licenses, limited licenses, temporary permits, or any
36 certificates issued by the Board, costs reasonably incurred by the
37 Board in the investigation, prosecution, hearing, or other
38 administrative action of the Board in final decisions or orders where
39 those persons are found to have violated the Veterinary Practice Act or
40 administrative rules of the Board issued pursuant to the Act; provided,
41 that all costs shall be the property of the Board."

42 Sec. 9. G.S. 90-187 reads as rewritten:

43 "**§ 90-187. Application for license; qualifications.**

1 (a) Any person desiring a license to practice veterinary medicine in this State
2 shall make written application to the Board.

3 (b) The application shall show that the applicant is a graduate of an accredited
4 veterinary school, a person of good moral character, and such other information and
5 proof as the Board may require by rule. The Board may receive applications from
6 senior students at accredited veterinary schools but an application is not complete until
7 the applicant furnishes proof of graduation and such other information required by this
8 Article and Board rules. The application shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount
9 established and published by the Board.

10 (c) Graduates of nonaccredited colleges of veterinary medicine outside the
11 United States and Canada shall furnish satisfactory proof of graduation from such a
12 college; of successful completion of a year of acceptable veterinary medical experience
13 in a United States or Canadian college, clinic, or private practice recognized for this
14 purpose by the Board; ~~of having successfully passed an examination by the United States~~
15 ~~National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners; and of comprehension of and ability to~~
16 ~~communicate in the English language.~~ language, including proof required by the Board
17 of either enrolling in or successful completion of courses developed by the Educational
18 Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG).

19 (d) If the Board determines that the applicant possesses the proper qualifications,
20 it ~~shall~~ may admit the applicant to the next examination, or if the applicant is eligible for
21 a license without examination under G.S. 90-187.3; the Board ~~shall~~ may ~~forthwith~~
22 ~~him~~ the applicant a license."

23 Sec. 10. G.S. 90-187.1 reads as rewritten:

24 "**§ 90-187.1. Examinations.**

25 The Board shall hold at least one examination during each year and may hold such
26 additional examinations as may appear necessary. ~~The secretary-treasurer-executive~~
27 ~~director shall~~ give public notice of the time and place for each examination at least 90
28 days in advance of the date set for the examination. A person desiring to take an
29 examination shall make application at least ~~30~~ 60 days before the date of the
30 examination. The Board shall determine the passing score for the successful completion
31 of an examination.

32 After each examination ~~the secretary-treasurer-executive director shall~~ notify each
33 examinee of the result of ~~his examination, the examination, and the~~ The Board shall issue
34 licenses to the persons successfully completing the ~~examination.~~ requirements for
35 licensure required by this Article and by Board rule. ~~The secretary-treasurer shall record~~
36 ~~the new licenses and issue a certificate of registration to the new licensees."~~

37 Sec. 11. G.S. 90-187.3 reads as rewritten:

38 "**§ 90-187.3. Applicants licensed in other states.**

39 (a) The Board ~~shall~~ may issue a license without written ~~examination~~ examination,
40 other than the written North Carolina license examination, to applicants already licensed
41 in another state provided the applicant presents evidence satisfactory to the Board that:

42 (1) The applicant is currently an active, competent practitioner in good
43 standing; and

- 1 (2) The applicant has practiced at least three of the five years immediately
2 preceding ~~his filing the~~ the application; and
- 3 (3) The applicant currently holds a ~~valid~~ an active license in another state;
4 and
- 5 (4) There is no disciplinary proceeding or unresolved complaint pending
6 against the applicant at the time a license is to be issued by this State;
7 and
- 8 (5) The licensure requirements in the other state are substantially
9 equivalent to those required by this ~~State~~ State; and
- 10 (6) A passing score on the written North Carolina license examination.

11 (b) The Board may ~~at its discretion~~ issue a license without a written examination
12 examination, other than the written North Carolina license examination, to applicants-an
13 applicant who meet-meets the requirements of G.S. 90-187(c).

14 (c) The Board may at its discretion orally or practically examine any person
15 qualifying for licensure under this ~~section~~ section, by administering a nationally
16 recognized clinical competency test as well as the North Carolina license examination.

17 (d) The Board may issue a limited license to practice veterinary medicine to an
18 applicant who is not otherwise eligible for a license to practice veterinary medicine
19 under this Article, without examination, if the applicant meets the criteria established in
20 subdivisions (1) through (6) of subsection (a) of this section."

21 Sec. 12. G.S. 90-187.4(a) reads as rewritten:

22 "(a) The Board ~~in its discretion may issue~~ issue, without examination-examination, a
23 temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in this State:

- 24 (1) To a qualified applicant for license pending examination, provided that
25 such temporary permit shall expire the day after the notice of results of
26 the first examination given after the permit is issued; ~~or to an applicant~~
27 ~~lacking full qualification requirements but who, in the opinion of the Board,~~
28 ~~is competent to practice under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian-~~
29 issued.
- 30 (2) To a nonresident veterinarian validly licensed in another state,
31 territory, or district of the United States or a foreign country, provided
32 that such temporary permit shall be issued for a period of no more than
33 60 days.
- 34 (3) ~~Such temporary permits~~ Temporary permits, as provided in (1) and (2)
35 ~~above~~ above, may contain ~~such~~ any restrictions as to time, place, or
36 supervision, ~~as that~~ the Board ~~may deem~~ deems appropriate. The State
37 Veterinarian shall be notified as to the issuance of all temporary
38 permits."

39 Sec. 13. G.S. 90-187.5 reads as rewritten:

40 "**§ 90-187.5. License renewal.**

41 All licenses and limited licenses shall expire ~~annually~~ annually or biennially, as
42 determined by the Board, on December 31 of each year but may be renewed by
43 application to the Board and payment of the renewal fee established and published by
44 the Board. The ~~secretary-treasurer~~ executive director shall issue a new certificate of

1 registration to all persons registering under this Article. Failure to apply for renewal
2 within ~~30-60~~ days after expiration shall result in automatic revocation of the license or
3 limited license and any person who shall practice veterinary medicine after such
4 revocation shall be practicing in violation of this Article. Provided, that any person may
5 renew an expired license or limited license at any time within two years following its
6 expiration upon application and compliance with Board requirements and the payment
7 of ~~the prescribed renewal fee and an additional amount not in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00) per~~
8 ~~year for late renewals, provided all applicable fees in amounts allowed by this Article or~~
9 administrative rule of the Board; and further provided, that the applicant is otherwise
10 eligible for renewal under this Article or administrative rules of the Board to have the
11 license renewed."

12 Sec. 14. G.S. 90-187.6 reads as rewritten:

13 "**§ 90-187.6. Veterinary assistants, technicians and veterinary employees.**

14 (a) ~~'Animal-'~~Veterinary technicians, 'veterinary student interns,' and 'veterinary
15 student preceptees' as defined in G.S. 90-181, before performing any services otherwise
16 prohibited to persons not licensed or registered under this Article, shall be approved by
17 and ~~annually~~-registered with the Board in accordance with G.S. ~~90-186(3) of this Article.~~
18 90-186(4). The Board shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the
19 qualifications, registration, discipline, and revocation of registration of ~~such these~~
20 persons, under this Article and rules duly adopted and published issued by the Board.

21 (b) The services of a technician, intern, preceptee, or other veterinary employee
22 shall be limited to services under the direction and supervision of a licensed
23 veterinarian. ~~He This employee~~ shall receive no fee or compensation of any kind for ~~his~~
24 services other than ~~such any~~ salary or compensation ~~as may be paid to him the employee~~
25 by the ~~veterinarian, hospital or clinic~~ veterinarian or veterinary facility by which ~~he the~~
26 employee is employed. ~~He The employee~~ may participate in the operation of a branch
27 office, clinic, or allied establishment only to the extent allowable under and as defined
28 ~~[by this Article and by rules of the Board.]~~ by this Article or by rules issued by the Board.

29 (c) An employee under the supervision of a ~~licensed~~-veterinarian may perform
30 such duties as are required in the physical care of animals and in carrying out medical
31 orders as prescribed by the licensed veterinarian, requiring an understanding of animal
32 science but not requiring the professional services as set forth in G.S. 90-181(6)a. In
33 addition, a ~~registered~~-veterinary technician may assist licensed veterinarians in diagnosis,
34 laboratory analysis, anesthesia, and surgical procedures. Neither the employee nor the
35 veterinary technician may perform any act producing an irreversible change in the
36 animal. An employee, other than a veterinary technician, intern, or preceptee may,
37 under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, perform duties including
38 collection of specimen; testing for intestinal parasites; collecting blood; testing for
39 heartworms and conducting other laboratory tests; taking radiographs; and cleaning and
40 polishing teeth, provided that the employee has had sufficient on-the-job training by a
41 licensed veterinarian to perform these specified duties in a competent manner. It shall
42 be the responsibility of the veterinarian supervising the employee to ascertain that the
43 employee performs these specified duties assigned to the employee in a competent

1 manner. These specified duties shall be performed under the direct supervision of the
2 veterinarian in charge of administering care to the patient.

3 (d) ~~Registered Veterinary student~~ interns, as defined in G.S. 90-181(9), in addition
4 to all of the services permitted to ~~registered-veterinary~~ technicians, may, under the direct
5 personal supervision of a licensed veterinarian, perform surgery and administer
6 therapeutic or prophylactic drugs.

7 (e) ~~Registered Veterinary student~~ preceptees, as defined in G.S. 90-181(10), in
8 addition to all of the services permitted to ~~registered-veterinary~~ technicians and ~~registered~~
9 veterinary student interns, may, upon the direction of the employing veterinarian, make
10 ambulatory calls and hospital and clinic diagnoses, prescriptions and treatments.

11 (f) Any person registered as ~~an animal or a~~ veterinary technician, veterinary
12 student ~~intern-intern,~~ or veterinary student preceptee, who shall practice veterinary
13 medicine except as provided herein, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, subject to the
14 penalties set forth in this Article and shall also be subject to revocation of registration.
15 Any nonregistered veterinary employee employed under subsection (c) who practices
16 veterinary medicine except as provided under that subsection shall be guilty of a
17 misdemeanor and subject to the penalties prescribed in G.S. 90-187.12.

18 (g) Any veterinarian directing or permitting a ~~registered-veterinary~~ technician,
19 intern, preceptee or other employee to perform a task or procedure not specifically
20 allowed under this Article and the rules of the Board shall be guilty of a misdemeanor
21 and subject to the penalties set forth in this Article or General Statutes, or both."

22 Sec. 15. G.S. 90-187.8 reads as rewritten:

23 "**§ 90-187.8. Discipline of licensees.**

24 Upon complaint, and within the Board's discretion, the Board may revoke, or
25 suspend the license of, or deny a license, limited license, or temporary permit, or
26 otherwise discipline, any licensed veterinarian under the provisions of this Article,
27 Board rules, or Chapter 150B of the General Statutes of North Carolina. ~~Carolina,~~
28 respectively. For the purpose of this section regarding discipline, the word 'license'
29 shall be construed to include faculty certificates, zoo veterinary certificates, and
30 registrations of veterinary technicians, veterinary student interns, and veterinary student
31 preceptees, as defined in this Article or Board rule.

32 The Board also may impose and collect from a licensee a civil monetary penalty up
33 to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of this Article or violation of an
34 administrative rule of the Board. The amount of the civil penalty, up to the maximum,
35 shall be determined upon a finding of one or a combination of the following factors:

- 36 (1) The degree and extent of harm to the public health or to the health of
37 the animal under the licensee's care.
- 38 (2) The duration and gravity of the violation.
- 39 (3) Whether the violation was committed willfully or intentionally or
40 reflects a continuing pattern.
- 41 (4) Whether the violation involved elements of fraud or deception either to
42 the client or to the Board, or both.
- 43 (5) The prior disciplinary record with the Board of the licensee.
- 44 (6) Whether and the extent to which the licensee profited by the violation.

1 All civil monetary penalties shall remain the property of the Board subject to
2 expenditure for the administration of this Article.

3 Grounds for disciplinary action shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 4 (1) The employment of fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in obtaining
5 a license.
- 6 (2) An adjudication of insanity or incompetency.
- 7 ~~(3) Chronic inebriety or habitual use of drugs.~~
- 8 (3) The impairment of a person holding a license, limited license, or any
9 certificate or registration issued by the Board, which impairment is
10 caused by that person's use of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances,
11 and which impairment interferes with that person's ability to practice
12 within the scope of the license, limited license, certificate, or
13 registration with reasonable skill and safety, and in a manner not
14 harmful to the public or to animals under the person's care.
- 15 (4) The use of advertising or solicitation which is false, misleading, or
16 deceptive.
- 17 (5) Conviction of a felony or other public offense involving moral
18 turpitude.
- 19 (6) Incompetence, gross negligence, or other malpractice in the practice of
20 veterinary medicine.
- 21 (7) Having professional association with or knowingly employing any
22 person practicing veterinary medicine unlawfully.
- 23 (8) Fraud or dishonesty in the application or reporting of any test for
24 disease in animals.
- 25 (9) Failure to keep veterinary premises and equipment in a clean and
26 sanitary ~~condition.~~ condition, or violating an administrative rule of the
27 Board concerning the minimum sanitary requirements of veterinary
28 hospitals, clinics, or practice facilities, or violating other State or
29 federal statutes or administrative rules concerning disposal of medical
30 waste.
- 31 (10) Failure to report, as required by the laws and regulations of the State,
32 or making false report of, any contagious or infectious disease.
- 33 (11) Dishonesty or gross negligence in the inspection of foodstuffs or the
34 issuance of health or inspection certificates.
- 35 (12) Conviction of ~~cruelty to animals.~~ a criminal offense involving cruelty to
36 animals; or the act of cruelty to animals defined in G.S. 90-181(14).
- 37 (13) Revocation of a license to practice veterinary medicine by another
38 state, territory or district of the United States only if the grounds for
39 revocation in the other jurisdiction would also result in revocation of
40 the practitioner's license in this State.
- 41 (14) Unprofessional conduct as defined in regulations adopted by the
42 Board.

- 1 (15) Conviction of a federal or state criminal offense involving the illegal
2 use, prescription, sale, or handling of controlled substances, other
3 drugs, or medicines.
- 4 (16) The illegal use, dispensing, prescription, sale, or handling of controlled
5 substances or other drugs and medicines.
- 6 (17) Failure to comply with rules or regulations of the United States Food
7 and Drug Administration regarding biologics, controlled substances,
8 drugs, or medicines.
- 9 (18) To sell, dispense, or prescribe, or to allow the sale, dispensing, or
10 prescription of, biologics, controlled substances, drugs, or medicines
11 without a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with respect to this
12 sale, dispensing, or prescription.
- 13 (19) Acts or behavior constituting fraud, dishonesty, or misrepresentation in
14 dealing with the Board or in the veterinarian-client-patient
15 relationship."

16 Sec. 16. G.S. 90-187.10 reads as rewritten:

17 **"§ 90-187.10. Necessity for license; certain practices exempted.**

18 No person shall engage in the practice of veterinary medicine or own all or part
19 interest in a veterinary medical practice in this State or attempt to do so without having
20 first applied for and obtained a license for such purpose from the North Carolina
21 Veterinary Medical Board, or without having first obtained from said Board a certificate
22 of renewal of license for the calendar year in which such person proposes to practice
23 and until he shall have been first licensed and registered for such practice in the manner
24 provided in this Article and the rules and regulations of the said Board.

25 Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prohibit:

- 26 (1) Any person or his employee from administering to animals, the title to
27 which is vested in himself, except when said title is so vested for the
28 purpose of circumventing the provisions of this Article;
- 29 (2) Any person who is a regular student or instructor in a legally chartered
30 college from the performance of those duties and actions assigned as
31 his responsibility in teaching or research;
- 32 (3) Any veterinarian not licensed by the Board who is a member of the
33 armed forces of the United States or who is an employee of the United
34 States Department of Agriculture, the United States Public Health
35 Service or other federal agency, or the State of North Carolina, or
36 political subdivision thereof, from performing official duties while so
37 commissioned or employed;
- 38 (4) Any person from such practices as permitted under the provisions of
39 G.S. 90-185, House Bill 659, Chapter 17, Public Laws 1937, or House
40 Bill 358, Chapter 5, Private Laws 1941;
- 41 (5) Any person from dehorning ~~animals~~ or castrating male food animals;
- 42 (6) Any person from providing for or assisting in the practice of artificial
43 insemination;

- 1 (7) Any physician licensed to practice medicine in this State, or his
2 assistant, while engaged in medical research;
- 3 (8) Any certified rabies vaccinator appointed, certified and acting with the
4 provisions of G.S. 130A-186;
- 5 (9) Any veterinarian licensed to practice in another state from examining
6 livestock or acting as a consultant in North Carolina, provided he ~~does~~
7 ~~not work in the State for more than 10 days in any calendar year and is~~
8 directly supervised by a veterinarian licensed by the Board who must,
9 at or prior to the first instance of consulting, notify the Board, in
10 writing, that he is supervising the consulting veterinarian, give the
11 Board the name, address, and licensure status of the consulting
12 veterinarian, and also verify to the Board that the supervising
13 veterinarian assumes responsibility for the professional acts of the
14 consulting veterinarian; and provided further, that the consultation by
15 the veterinarian in North Carolina does not exceed 10 days or parts
16 thereof per year, and further that all infectious or contagious diseases
17 diagnosed are reported to the State Veterinarian within 48 ~~hours~~-hours;
18 or
- 19 (10) Any person employed by the North Carolina Department of
20 Agriculture as a livestock inspector or by the U.S. Department of
21 Agriculture as an animal health technician from performing regular
22 duties assigned to him or her during the course and scope of that
23 person's employment."

24 Sec. 17. G.S. 90-187.11 reads as rewritten:

25 "**§ 90-187.11. Partnership practice; corporate practice. Partnership, corporate, or sole**
26 **proprietorship practice.**

27 A veterinary medical practice may be conducted as a sole proprietorship, by a
28 partnership, or by a duly registered professional corporation.

29 Whenever the practice of veterinary medicine is carried on by a partnership, all
30 partners must be ~~either licensed or the holders of temporary permits.~~ licensed.

31 It shall be unlawful for any corporation to practice or offer to practice veterinary
32 medicine as defined in this Article, except as provided for in Chapter 55B of the
33 General Statutes of North Carolina."

34 Sec. 18. Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
35 section to read:

36 "**§ 90-187.14. Veterinary faculty certificates and zoo veterinary certificates.**

37 (a) The Board may, upon application, issue veterinary faculty certificates in lieu
38 of a license that otherwise would be required by this Article.

39 (b) The Board may, upon application, issue zoo veterinary certificates in lieu of a
40 license that otherwise would be required by this Article, to veterinarians employed by
41 the North Carolina State Zoo.

42 (c) The Board shall determine by administrative rule the application procedure,
43 fees, criteria for the issuance, continuing education, renewal, suspension or revocation,
44 and the scope of practice under the veterinary faculty certificate or the zoo veterinary

1 certificate. There shall be an annual renewal of each certificate and all persons holding
2 these certificates shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Board in all respects under
3 this Article."

4 Sec. 19. This act becomes effective October 1, 1993.