A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERINARY TECHNICIANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to improve the level 2 of care of animals in the State by establishing registration 3 requirements for veterinary technicians. SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 4 5 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows: 6 7 "CHAPTER 8 VETERINARY TECHNICIANS -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter: 10 "Board" means the board of veterinary examiners, as defined 11 in section 471-1.
- 12 "Veterinary technician" means an individual, whether 13 registered under this chapter, who is formally trained for the 14 specific purpose of assisting a licensed veterinarian in the 15 performance of professional or technical services in the field 16 of veterinary medicine or who represents oneself to be a 17

veterinary technician.

1	S	-2 Registration required; exceptions. (a) No person
2	shall pra	ctice or offer to practice as a veterinary technician,
3	either gr	atuitously or for pay, or shall announce or advertise
4	either pu	blicly or privately as prepared or qualified to so
5	practice,	or affix any letters to the person's name with the
6	intent th	ereby to imply that the person is a registered
7	veterinar	y technician, without having a valid unrevoked
8	certifica	te of registration from the board of veterinary
9	examiners	·
10	(b)	Nothing in this chapter shall prevent or prohibit:
11	(1)	Any person from treating any animal without
12		expectation or receipt of compensation in case of
13		emergency;
14	(2)	The owner of any animal or animals and the owner's
15		full-time, regular employees from caring for and
16		treating any animal belonging to the owner;
17	(3)	Students in an educational program for veterinary
18		technicians from participating in activities conducted
19		as part of the educational program under the
20		supervision and guidance of a licensed veterinarian or
21		registered veterinary technician;

1	(4)	Individuals who are employed by a licensed
2		veterinarian and are trained to do only a very limited
3		number of diagnostic or therapeutic procedures from
4		carrying out those procedures under the direction of
5		the licensed veterinarian;
6	(5)	Any person from practicing as a veterinary technician
7		in the employ of the United States government while
8		engaged in the performance of the person's official
9		duties;
10	(6)	Any person licensed to practice as a veterinarian in
11		any state, or any certified scientist or professional
12	-	in animal care, from practicing in this State when in
13		actual consultation with or under the sponsorship of a
14		licensed veterinarian of this State; provided that the
15		person licensed from another state, or the certified
16		scientist or professional in animal care, shall not
17		open an office, appoint a place to meet patients, or
18		receive calls within the limits of the State; or
19	(7)	Any farmer from giving to another farmer the
20	•	assistance customarily given in the ordinary practice

of animal husbandry.

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- 1 (c) The board shall establish educational and training
- 2 standards with which a person applying for a certificate of
- 3 registration as a veterinary technician shall comply.
- 4 § -3 Power to investigate. The board or any member
- 5 thereof, or any person designated by the board for the purpose,
- 6 may investigate any violation or suspected violation of this
- 7 chapter. Each member of the board may administer oaths in
- 8 connection with any such investigation.
- 9 § -4 Registration. (a) Except as otherwise provided in
- 10 this chapter or in rules adopted by the board, the board shall
- 11 issue a certificate of registration to engage in the practice as
- 12 a veterinary technician to all applicants who meet the
- 13 requirements of this chapter and any rules adopted by the board,
- 14 and who pay the required registration fee.
- 15 (b) All certificates of registration issued by the board
- 16 shall expire on June 30 of each even-numbered year next
- 17 following the date of issuance. Failure to renew the
- 18 certificate of registration on or before June 30 of each even-
- 19 numbered year shall automatically constitute a forfeiture of the
- 20 certificate of registration; provided that the certificate of
- 21 registration shall be restored upon compliance with rules
- 22 adopted by the board.

HB HMS 2013-4103-1

- 1 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary,
- 2 no registration shall expire while the registered individual is
- 3 serving on active duty in the armed forces of the United States
- 4 during any emergency declared by the President or Congress and
- 5 six months after the termination thereof.
- 6 § -5 Refusal to grant, revocation, and suspension of a
- 7 registration. (a) In addition to any other actions authorized
- 8 by law, the board may refuse to grant, renew, reinstate or
- 9 restore a registration for any cause that would be ground for
- 10 revocation of a certificate registration under the law or rules
- 11 adopted by the board.
- 12 (b) In addition to any other actions authorized by law,
- 13 the board may revoke or suspend the certificate of registration
- 14 of any veterinary technician, fine a registered individual, or
- 15 both, for any cause authorized by law or rules adopted by the
- 16 board.
- 17 § -6 Hearings. In every case where it is proposed to
- 18 refuse to grant, renew, reinstate, or restore a certificate of
- 19 registration or to revoke or suspend the certificate of
- 20 registration for cause, the person concerned shall be given
- 21 notice and opportunity for hearing in conformity with chapter
- **22** 91.

HB HMS 2013-4103-1



- 3 oaths, compelling the attendance of witnesses and the production
- 4 of documentary evidence, and examining witnesses as are
- 5 possessed by circuit courts. In case of disobedience by any
- 6 person of any order or subpoena of the board or any member
- 7 thereof or the refusal of any witness to testify to any matter
- 8 regarding which the witness may lawfully be questioned, any
- 9 circuit judge, on application by the board or any member
- 10 thereof, shall compel obedience as in the case of disobedience
- 11 of the requirements of a subpoena issued by a circuit court, or
- 12 a refusal to testify therein.
- 13 § -7 Violations; penalties. Any person who violates or
- 14 fails to comply with any provision of this chapter shall be
- 15 fined not more than \$1,000 for each violation.
- 16 § -8 Rules and regulations. The board of veterinary
- 17 examiners shall adopt, amend, or repeal rules pursuant to
- 18 chapter 91 to establish the requirements for the registration of
- 19 veterinary technicians, including basic educational and
- 20 examination requirements, and to otherwise effectuate the
- 21 purposes of this chapter."

- 1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014;
- 2 provided that section 2 shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 18 2014

Report Title:

Veterinary Technicians; Registration

Description:

Establishes requirements for the practice and registration of veterinary technicians. Requires the Board of Veterinary Examiners to adopt rules. Effective July 1, 2014.

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