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## STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD

- Authorizes the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board to suspend the certificate of license of an individual without first holding a hearing if the Board's Executive Director recommends that such action be taken after determining both of the following:
  - There is clear and convincing evidence that certain conditions apply to or certain actions have been committed by the individual, including alcohol or drug addiction and cruelty to animals; and
  - The individual's continued practice presents a danger of immediate and serious harm to the public.
- Establishes procedures to be followed for such suspensions.
- Automatically suspends the license or registration of an individual who is found guilty of, has pleaded guilty to, or is subject to a judicial finding in relation to specified crimes, including murder and felonious assault.
- Removes the requirement that an individual seeking to take a nationally recognized veterinary examination apply to the State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board for permission to take the examination.
- Increases the cost of an initial veterinary license by \$50.
- Removes the fee charged for examinations offered by the Board.
- Expands the list of veterinary college approval entities to include the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence of the American Association of State Veterinary Boards and removes the Board's ability to approve other certification programs.

### **Suspension of veterinary license**

(R.C. 4741.22 and 4741.31)

The bill authorizes the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board to suspend the certificate of license of an individual without first holding a hearing if the Board's Executive Director recommends that such action be taken after determining that there is clear and convincing evidence that certain conditions apply to or certain actions have



been committed by the individual, including alcohol or drug addiction and cruelty to animals, and that the individual's continued practice presents a danger of immediate and serious harm to the public. The Executive Director must prepare written allegations for consideration by the Board. The Board, upon review of those allegations and by an affirmative vote of at least four of its members, may then suspend the certificate without a prior hearing. The bill allows a telephone conference call to be utilized for reviewing the allegations and taking the vote on the suspension. It then establishes procedures to be followed for such a suspension, including an adjudicatory hearing if requested by the individual.

Finally, under the bill, the license or registration of an individual who is found guilty of, has pleaded guilty to, or is subject to a judicial finding in relation to specified crimes, including murder and felonious assault, is automatically suspended. If the individual fails to either request or participate in an adjudication, the Board must permanently revoke the individual's license or registration.

## **Veterinary licensing**

(R.C. 4741.03, 4741.09 (repealed), 4741.11, 4741.12, 4741.17, 4741.19)

The bill makes changes to the law pertaining to veterinary licensing. First, the bill removes a requirement that an individual seeking to take a nationally recognized veterinary examination apply to the State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board for permission to take the examination. It also makes corresponding changes.

Second, the bill increases the cost of an initial veterinary license, as follows:

- To \$425 from \$375 for a two initial license;
- To \$300 from \$250 for a one year initial license.

Third, the bill removes a separate initial license fee for licenses issued by reciprocity in favor of the standard license fee.

Fourth, the bill removes the fee for examinations offered by the Board. The amount of this fee is not prescribed in the Revised or Administrative Codes, but is rather determined by the Board. The bill also removes the right of an applicant who fails the examination to request a written report showing the reasons for the failure.

Finally, the bill expands the list of veterinary college approval entities to include the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence of the American Association of State Veterinary Boards. A veterinary college in receipt of such an approval has been determined by the Board to provide an education sufficient to meet



the board's education requirement for licensure. The bill also removes the Board's ability to approve other certification programs.

