

SENATE BILL 322

M4

11r0023

By: **Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (By Request – Departmental – Agriculture)**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2011

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners – Registered Veterinary**
3 **Technician**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of the term “practice of veterinary
5 medicine” to exclude certain procedures performed by a certain veterinary
6 technician under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the regulation
7 of the practice of veterinary medicine.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Agriculture
10 Section 2–301(f)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

13 BY repealing
14 Article – Agriculture
15 Section 2–301(g)(10)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

18 BY adding to
19 Article – Agriculture
20 Section 2–301(g)(10)
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
24 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Agriculture**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



2–301.

(f) “Practice of veterinary medicine” includes, but is not limited to, the practice by any person who:

(1) Diagnoses, advises, prescribes, or administers a drug, medicine, biological product, appliance, application, or treatment of any nature, for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of an animal;

(2) Performs a surgical operation, including cosmetic surgery, upon any animal;

(3) Performs dentistry on any animal;

(4) Performs any manual procedure upon an animal for the diagnosis or treatment of sterility or infertility of the animal;

(5) Represents himself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine;

(6) Offers, undertakes, or holds himself out as being able to diagnose, treat, operate, vaccinate, or prescribe for any animal disease, pain, injury, deformity, or physical condition; or

(7) Uses any words, letters, or titles in connection or under circumstances as to induce the belief that the person using them is engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine. This use is prima facie evidence of the intention to represent himself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine.

(g) The term “practice of veterinary medicine” does not include or apply to:

[(10) Except as otherwise provided by regulations adopted by the Board, a veterinary technician when performing the following procedures under the responsible direct supervision of a veterinary practitioner:

(i) Anesthesia induction by inhalation or intravenous injection if the veterinary practitioner is able to maintain direct visual contact of the veterinary technician’s performance of the procedure;

(ii) Anesthesia induction by intramuscular injection;

(iii) Application of casts and splints;

(iv) Dental extractions; and

(v) Suturing of existing surgical skin incisions;]

1 **(10) A REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN WHEN PERFORMING**
2 **A PROCEDURE UNDER THE RESPONSIBLE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A**
3 **VETERINARY PRACTITIONER AS PROVIDED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**
4 **BOARD;**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2011.