



Maryland Veterinary Medical Association  
SB 390 Favorable with Amendments

The Maryland Veterinary Medical Association (MDVMA) strongly believes that veterinarians must be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Maryland and supports the current the law that allows for licensed veterinarians only to administer rabies vaccinations. In cases where prompt and effective management of the state’s rabies prevention program is needed, we are amiable to the amendments proposed by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (SBVME) and Maryland Department of Health that would change regulations to allow Registered Veterinary Technicians to administer rabies vaccinations under direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. MDVMA does not support, under any circumstance, other clinical staff administering rabies vaccinations.

In addition, SB 390 as written, takes an unprecedented step to negate the ability of the SBVME to regulate veterinarians. Increasing access to veterinary care should never compromise the standards set forth by the SBVME who has no authority to hold accountable or reprimand a veterinarian that does not hold a current Maryland license. Shelter animals are worthy of the highest quality veterinary care and should not be subjected to an unchecked or unregulated veterinarian.

Due to the commitment to upholding high standards of professional practice and patient care, the MDVMA supports SB 390 with the amendments to the rabies provision, however urges that SB 390 be further amended to remove all other requested provisions in the bill as written.

If you have additional questions, please contact Marisa Francis, Executive Director, at [mfrancis@mdvma.org](mailto:mfrancis@mdvma.org) or (410) 305-7083.