

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
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S. B. No. 232

Senator Thomas

Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Tavares, Schiavoni

A BILL

To amend section 4741.16 of the Revised Code to 1
allow a licensed veterinarian to receive up to 2
two continuing education credits per biennium 3
for performing free spaying and neutering 4
services. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4741.16 of the Revised Code be 6
amended to read as follows: 7

Sec. 4741.16. (A) A license to practice veterinary 8
medicine issued by the state veterinary medical licensing board 9
pursuant to sections 4741.11 to 4741.13 of the Revised Code 10
expires biennially on the first day of March in even-numbered 11
years. A limited license to practice veterinary medicine issued 12
by the board pursuant to those sections expires biennially on 13
the first day of July. A license or limited license may be 14
renewed in accordance with the standard renewal procedures 15
contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code upon payment of 16
the required renewal fee and fulfillment of the continuing 17
education requirements contained in division (B) of this section 18

unless otherwise provided by law. The board shall issue a 19
duplicate certificate to any holder upon request and upon due 20
proof of loss of the original. 21

(B) As a condition precedent to each renewal of a license 22
or limited license, a licensed veterinarian shall demonstrate, 23
to the satisfaction of the board, that the licensed veterinarian 24
has completed thirty hours of continuing education during the 25
two years immediately preceding renewal of the licensed 26
veterinarian's license or limited license that meets the 27
requirements established by rule of the board as to form and 28
content. 29

(C) (1) A licensed veterinarian may receive up to two hours 30
of continuing education for purposes of division (B) of this 31
section each biennium if the licensed veterinarian performs free 32
spaying and neutering services in accordance with this division. 33
The licensed veterinarian shall provide the services at a 34
practice, facility, or property that is appropriately equipped 35
and staffed to provide such services. In addition, the licensed 36
veterinarian shall perform the services in conjunction with one 37
of the following: 38

(a) A county humane society operating pursuant to section 39
1717.05 of the Revised Code; 40

(b) A county dog pound operating pursuant to section 41
955.15 of the Revised Code; 42

(c) A municipal dog pound operating under the authority of 43
section 955.221 of the Revised Code; 44

(d) An organization that is exempt from federal income 45
taxation under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code 46
that is dedicated to animal protection and welfare. 47

For every one hour of free spaying and neutering services 48
that the licensed veterinarian performs, the licensed 49
veterinarian shall receive one-half hour of continuing education 50
credit. 51

(2) In order to receive continuing education credits under 52
division (C) (1) of this section, a licensed veterinarian who 53
offers free spaying and neutering services shall provide, free 54
of charge, follow-up services for any post-operative 55
complications related to the surgery that arise within twenty- 56
four hours of performing the surgery. 57

(3) The state veterinary medical licensing board shall 58
adopt policies and procedures necessary for the administration 59
of division (C) (2) of this section. 60

(D) The board may waive the requirement of division (B) of 61
this section if the licensee submits an affidavit evidencing 62
that the licensee was prevented from attending an approved 63
educational program during a year because of the occurrence of 64
an unusual and prolonged emergency, provided the licensee 65
otherwise complies with such requirements as the board 66
determines. 67

~~(D)~~(E) Educational program requirements not completed 68
during the biennial license period, due to a waiver granted by 69
the board under division ~~(C)~~(D) of this section, are cumulative 70
on the requirements for the succeeding biennial license period. 71

~~(E)~~(F) Any license or limited license which is not 72
renewed at the end of the biennium becomes an inactive license 73
or limited license. A licensee may reactivate an inactive 74
license or limited license upon application to the board. The 75
board shall prescribe continuing education and other 76

requirements as it considers necessary to reactivate a license 77
or limited license. Any license or limited license which has 78
been inactive for more than four years expires if the licensee 79
has not applied for reactivation of the license or limited 80
license. Upon expiration, a license or limited license becomes 81
void. 82

~~(F)~~(G) Division ~~(E)~~(F) of this section does not apply to 83
any veterinarian who serves solely in a professional capacity 84
with any federal, state, or local government agency or with any 85
branch of the armed forces of the United States. 86

Section 2. That existing section 4741.16 of the Revised 87
Code is hereby repealed. 88