



AN ACT CONCERNING VETERINARY TECHNICIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-197 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) No person shall practice veterinary medicine, surgery or
4 dentistry until [he] such person has obtained a license as provided in
5 section 20-199. A person shall be construed to practice veterinary
6 medicine, surgery or dentistry, within the meaning of this chapter,
7 [who] if such person (1) holds himself or herself out as being able to
8 diagnose, administer biologics for, treat, operate or prescribe for any
9 animal or bird disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition, or
10 [who] (2) either offers or undertakes, by any means or methods, to
11 diagnose, administer biologics for, treat, operate or prescribe for any
12 animal or bird disease, pain, injury, deformity or physical condition.
13 The euthanizing of animals in accordance with applicable state and
14 federal drug laws by the Connecticut Humane Society and the floating
15 of teeth in horses by persons experienced in that practice shall not be
16 deemed to be the practice of veterinary medicine. [For the purposes of
17 this section] As used in this subsection, "floating of teeth" means using
18 hand-held rasps to reduce or eliminate sharp or uneven edges on a
19 horse's upper and lower molars to avoid injury to the tongue and
20 cheeks and to improve chewing food, but does not include treating
21 decay, tumors or extracting teeth.

22 (b) (1) As used in this subsection, "veterinary technician" means any
23 person who: (A) Prior to January 1, 2003, has passed a veterinary
24 technician examination prescribed by the Department of Public Health;
25 or (B) on or after January 1, 2003, has successfully completed a
26 veterinary technology program accredited by the American Veterinary
27 Medical Association and has passed a veterinary technician
28 examination prescribed by the Department of Public Health.

29 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any
30 licensed veterinarian may delegate to a veterinary technician such
31 veterinary procedures as the licensed veterinarian deems advisable,
32 provided: (A) Such delegated procedures shall be performed under the
33 direction and supervision of such licensed veterinarian and only when
34 such licensed veterinarian is present on the premises where such
35 delegated procedures are being conducted; and (B) such licensed
36 veterinarian shall be responsible for all such delegated procedures and
37 for making all medical judgments regarding any animal that is the
38 subject of such delegated procedures.

39 (3) No veterinary technician may engage in any: (A) Diagnosis or
40 prognosis; (B) prescription of treatments, drugs, medications or
41 appliances; or (C) surgery.

42 (4) Prior to delegating any veterinary procedures to a veterinary
43 technician under subdivision (2) of this subsection, a licensed
44 veterinarian shall verify that such veterinary technician has met the
45 applicable qualification requirements set forth in subdivision (1) of this
46 subsection. Such licensed veterinarian shall maintain written
47 documentation that such requirements have been met and verified and
48 shall make such written documentation available for inspection by the
49 Department of Public Health, upon request.

50 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*