



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6556

LCO No. 3235

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE
VETERINARIAN.**

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

1 Section 22-26f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
2 substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) There shall be a State Veterinarian who shall be an employee of
4 the Department of Agriculture and shall serve as the chief livestock
5 health official for the state.

6 (b) The State Veterinarian shall possess and retain during [his]
7 employment a license to practice veterinary medicine in this state. [He]
8 The State Veterinarian shall possess and retain federal accreditation in
9 this state through the United States Department of Agriculture Animal
10 and Plant Health Inspection Service and shall have not less than seven
11 years experience in large animal practice.

12 (c) The State Veterinarian shall (1) act as the official state
13 epidemiologist for animal and poultry diseases, (2) coordinate state
14 and federal governmental agencies and livestock and poultry

15 producers to control diseases, and (3) administer and guide the
16 development and management of disease control and eradication
17 programs performed by the department. [He] The State Veterinarian
18 shall act as liaison with other units in the department, other state
19 agencies and other officials regarding policies concerning disease
20 control and cruelty to animals [He] and shall supervise the quarantine
21 and disposal of animals and poultry condemned because of disease.

22 (d) The State Veterinarian may issue orders to prevent the spread of
23 contagious and infectious diseases among animals and poultry and
24 may protect the public from such diseases as may be transmissible to
25 human beings, either directly or through the products of such animals.

26 (e) The State Veterinarian shall annually issue a list of reportable
27 animal and avian diseases and reportable laboratory findings and
28 amend such list as the State Veterinarian deems necessary. The State
29 Veterinarian shall distribute such list as well as any necessary forms
30 and instructions for use in the reporting of such diseases to each
31 veterinarian licensed in this state and to each diagnostic laboratory
32 that conducts tests on animals or birds in this state.

Statement of Purpose:

To better address existing and emerging livestock disease prevention and control issues which could potentially affect both animal and public health.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]