



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Raised Bill No. 580**

LCO No. 2672

\*02672\_\_\_\_\_PH\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF VETERINARIANS WHEN  
PRESCRIBING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) Prior to or  
2 simultaneously with the direct dispensation of a drug to the owner of  
3 an animal, a veterinarian shall undertake a review of drugs dispensed  
4 to such owner by the veterinarian during the previous one hundred  
5 eighty days. The review shall include screening for potential drug  
6 therapy problems due to therapeutic duplication, a contraindication  
7 between a drug and a disease, the interaction of one drug with  
8 another, incorrect drug dosage or duration of drug treatment, the  
9 interaction of a drug and an allergy, and any other significant clinical  
10 issues relating to the appropriate use of drugs. Such review shall be  
11 based upon current standards and information consistent with that  
12 provided in the following resources: The United States Department of  
13 Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the  
14 American Veterinary Medical Association.

15 (b) Prior to or simultaneously with the direct dispensation of a drug  
16 to the owner of an animal, a veterinarian shall discuss with such owner

17 the drug to be dispensed and shall counsel the owner on the usage of  
18 such drug. The discussion and counseling offered in accordance with  
19 this subsection shall include information deemed significant by the  
20 veterinarian based upon such veterinarian professional judgment and  
21 the findings of the review conducted in accordance with subsection (a)  
22 of this section, including (1) the name and description of the drug; (2)  
23 dosage form, dosage, route of administration and duration of drug  
24 therapy; (3) special directions and precautions for preparation,  
25 administration and use by the owner of the animal; (4) common severe  
26 side or adverse effects or interactions and therapeutic  
27 contraindications or precautions that the veterinarian deems relevant;  
28 (5) proper storage of the drug; (6) prescription refill information; and  
29 (7) action to be taken in the event of a missed dose or adverse reaction.

30 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a  
31 veterinarian to provide counseling or gather information when the  
32 owner of the animal refuses such counseling or refuses or is unable to  
33 provide the information requested. The veterinarian shall document  
34 the provision of counseling, a refusal by or the inability of the patient  
35 to accept counseling or a refusal by the patient to give information.  
36 Records kept pursuant to this subsection shall be maintained for three  
37 years from the date the prescribed drug is directly dispensed to the  
38 owner of an animal.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require a veterinarian who directly dispenses a drug to the owner of an animal to discuss the nature of the drug and relevant factors concerning the administration of such drug prior to or simultaneously with the dispensation of such drug to the owner.

*[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.]*