



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Committee Bill No. 5399

LCO No. 2763

02763HB05399ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE EUTHANIZING OF ANIMALS BY THE
CONNECTICUT HUMANE SOCIETY.**

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 Section 20-197 of the general statutes is repealed and the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 (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 No person shall practice veterinary medicine, surgery or dentistry
4 until he has obtained a license as provided in section 20-199. A person
5 shall be construed to practice veterinary medicine, surgery or
6 dentistry, within the meaning of this chapter, who holds himself out as
7 being able to diagnose, administer biologics for, treat, operate or
8 prescribe for any animal or bird disease, pain, injury, deformity or
9 physical condition, or who either offers or undertakes, by any means
10 or methods, to diagnose, administer biologics for, treat, operate or
11 prescribe for any animal or bird disease, pain, injury, deformity or
12 physical condition. The [euthanizing of animals in accordance with
13 applicable state and federal drug laws by the Connecticut Humane
14 Society, the] floating of teeth in horses by persons experienced in that
15 practice and the performance of myofascial trigger point therapy by
16 persons experienced in that practice shall not be deemed to be the

17 practice of veterinary medicine. For the purposes of this section,
18 "floating teeth" means using hand-held rasps to reduce or eliminate
19 sharp or uneven edges on a horse's upper and lower molars to avoid
20 injury to the tongue and cheeks and to improve chewing food, but
21 does not include treating decay or tumors or extracting teeth. For the
22 purposes of this section, "myofascial trigger point therapy" means the
23 use of specific palpation, compression, stretching and corrective
24 exercise for promoting optimum athleticism, and "persons experienced
25 in that practice" means persons who, prior to October 1, 2003, have
26 attended a minimum of two hundred hours of classroom, lecture and
27 hands-on practice in myofascial trigger point therapy, including
28 animal musculoskeletal anatomy and biomechanics, theory and
29 application of animal myofascial trigger point techniques, factors that
30 habituate a presenting condition and corrective exercise.

31 Sec. 2. Section 29-108g of the general statutes is repealed and the
32 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

33 Any agent or officer of the Connecticut Humane Society may
34 lawfully take charge of and [humanely destroy, or] cause to be
35 humanely destroyed by a person licensed pursuant to section 20-199 to
36 practice veterinary medicine, any abandoned, lost, strayed or homeless
37 animal or animal unsuitable for adoption in his charge if upon
38 examination [a] such licensed veterinarian certifies, in writing, [or if
39 two persons called to view the animal in the presence of an agent or
40 officer of the society find] that the animal is injured, disabled or
41 diseased past recovery, infirm or unsuitable for adoption, or if the
42 owner consents in writing to such destruction. In the absence of such
43 certification or [finding or] redemption by the owner, the society may,
44 after five days, have a licensed veterinarian humanely destroy any
45 animal in its charge pursuant to this section. In lieu of such destruction
46 or redemption by the owner, the society may, in its discretion and
47 without liability, deliver such animal, after five days, to a person other
48 than the owner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	20-197
Sec. 2	October 1, 2011	29-108g

Statement of Purpose:

To require any euthanizing of animals by the Connecticut Humane Society to be performed by licensed veterinarians.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.

H.B. 5399