



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 66

January Session, 2013

Senate Bill No. 918

Senate, March 20, 2013

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. MEYER of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

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, 2013*) (a) Prior to or
2 simultaneous with the direct dispensation of a drug to the owner of an
3 animal, any veterinarian shall undertake a review of each drug
4 dispensed to such owner by such veterinarian. The review shall
5 include screening for potential drug therapy problems due to
6 therapeutic duplication, a contraindication between a drug and a
7 disease, the interaction of one drug with another drug, incorrect drug
8 dosage or duration of drug treatment, the interaction of a drug and an
9 allergy, and any other significant clinical issues relating to the
10 appropriate use of such drug. Such review shall be based upon
11 standards that are current as of the date of such review.

12 (b) Prior to or simultaneous with the direct dispensation of a drug to
13 the owner of an animal, any veterinarian shall discuss with such owner
14 the drug to be dispensed and shall counsel the owner on the usage of

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

27 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any
 28 veterinarian to provide counseling and information when the owner of
 29 such animal refuses such counseling and information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2013	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill requires private practice veterinarians to undertake certain review and counseling activities when dispensing medications. This does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 918*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF VETERINARIANS WHEN PRESCRIBING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires veterinarians to undertake certain review and counseling activities when dispensing medications.

The bill requires a veterinarian to review any drug he or she dispenses to an animal's owner before or when dispensing it. The review must include screening for:

1. potential drug therapy problems because of therapeutic duplication,
2. a contraindication between a drug and a disease,
3. the interaction of one drug with another,
4. incorrect drug dosage or duration of drug treatment,
5. the interaction of a drug and an allergy, and
6. any other significant clinical issues relating to the appropriate use of the drug.

The review must be based on current standards, but the bill does not specify those standards.

The bill also requires a veterinarian to discuss the drug with the animal's owner and counsel the owner on its use before or when dispensing it. The discussion and counseling must include information the veterinarian considers significant based on his or her professional judgment and the findings of the required drug review

described above. Such information must include:

1. the drug's name and description;
2. dosage, dosage form, administration route, and duration of drug therapy;
3. special directions and precautions for preparing, administering, and using the drug;
4. common severe side or adverse effects or interactions and therapeutic contraindications or precautions the veterinarian considers relevant;
5. proper drug storage;
6. refill information; and
7. action to take in case of a missed dose or adverse reaction.

The bill specifies that a veterinarian is not required to provide counseling or information when an animal's owner refuses it.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 3 (03/04/2013)