

January 25, 2012

The Kansas Senate Agriculture Committee
The Honorable Senator Mark Taddiken, Chairperson
Room 159S, Capitol Building, Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Chairperson Taddiken and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners respectfully requests your support for passage of Senate Bill 289, amending the Kansas Veterinary Practice Act.

On page 1, line 16, SB 289 would clarify in KSA 47-821, the existence of the Board of Veterinary Examiners' authority to inspect and audit veterinarians' compliance with the currently existing minimum standards of veterinary practice. The Board has been conducting such inspections and audits since 1996 for veterinarians who practice in association with a registered veterinary premises. Passage of this amended language would clarify the Board's authority to similarly inspect and audit the standards of practice for veterinarians who do not practice in association with a registered premises, such as a exclusively house call veterinarians and farm call veterinarians.

On page 4, line 14, the bill would establish in KSA 47-824 the range of the fee the agency would assess the veterinarian for inspecting and auditing compliance with recordkeeping and other currently existing standards of practice.

On page 2, line 23, the bill would further clarify in KSA 47-821 the existence of the Board of Veterinary Examiners' authority to assess the qualifications of applicants for registration as a veterinary technician, similar to its current authority to assess the qualifications of applicants for licensure as a veterinarian.

On page 2, line 25, the bill would clarify the Board's authority to sanction the registration of a registered veterinary technician, similar to its authority to sanction the license of a veterinarian.

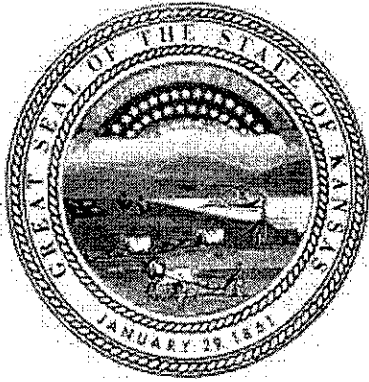
On page 4, line 33, the bill would add a licensed veterinarian's entering into a diversion agreement in lieu of conviction of a felony as a basis for the Board's seeking sanction against the veterinarian's license. Currently the statute only provides as a basis for seeking sanction the actual conviction of a felony.

On page 6, line 16, the bill would clarify the Board's authority to assess a fine not in excess of \$5,000 against the licensee of a veterinarian for *each* of the causes for which the Board seeks sanction against the veterinarian's license. The currently existing wording "*any* violation" would be amended to "*each* violation" to accomplish this clarification.

Passage of SB 289 would better enable the agency to fulfill its legislatively mandated mission of promoting public health, safety, and welfare relative to the practice of veterinary medicine in Kansas. We respectfully ask for your support.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Veterinary Examiners, thank you.

Dirk Hanson, DVM, Executive Director



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