IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 381

BY AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1	AN ACT
2	RELATING TO VETERINARIANS; AMENDING SECTION 54-2103, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE
3	DEFINITIONS, TO MAKE A CODIFIER'S CORRECTION AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL COR-
4	RECTIONS; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-2105, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE TERMINOL-
5	OGY AND TO PROVIDE A CORRECT A CODE REFERENCE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 54-2103, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-2103. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Accredited continuing education activity" means a provider and course, seminar, scientific program or any other activity approved by the board or its designees for continuing education credit.
- (2) "Accredited or approved school of veterinary medicine" means any veterinary college or division of a university or college inside or outside the United States or Canada that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, veterinary medicine doctor, or its equivalent and is accredited or approved by the council on education of the American veterinary medical association or other accrediting agency or association approved by the board.
- (3) "Allied health professional" means a person holding a current active license, in good standing, in any state to practice one (1) of the healing arts including, but not limited to, medicine, dentistry, osteopathy, chiropractic, acupuncture and podiatry.
- (4) "Anesthetized" means any condition of general anesthesia, caused by the administration of a drug or combination of drugs in sufficient quantity to produce a state of unconsciousness or disassociation and blocked response to a given pain or alarm stimulus.
- (5) "Animal" means any animal other than man and includes fowl, birds, fish and reptiles, wild or domestic, living or dead.
- (6) "Assistant" means any individual, other than a certified veterinary technician or a licensed veterinarian, who is utilized by a licensed veterinarian to assist in the performance of acts pertaining to the practice of veterinary medicine.
 - (7) "Board" means the state board of veterinary medicine.
- (8) "Certified euthanasia agency" or "CEA" means a law enforcement agency, an animal control agency or a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, which has been inspected and certified by the $\underline{\text{committee on humane}}$ euthanasia $\underline{\text{task force}}$ or the board.
- (9) "Certified euthanasia technician" or "CET" means a person employed by a certified euthanasia agency τ who is instructed and certified by the committee on humane euthanasia task force or the board as defined in the rules of the board, but not to include an individual employed as a technician by animal research laboratories.

(10) "Certified veterinary technician" means a person who has fulfilled the certification requirements prescribed by board rule and has been certified by the board to practice veterinary technology in this state.

- (11) "Consultation" means a deliberation between two (2) or more veterinarians concerning the diagnosis of a disease or the proper management of the case.
- (12) "Credit hour" means fifty (50) minutes of participation in an accredited continuing education activity.
- (13) "Dentistry" is the practice of veterinary medicine and means the application or use of any instrument or device to any portion of an animal's tooth, gum or any related tissue for the prevention, cure or relief of any wound, fracture, injury, disease or other condition of an animal's tooth, gum or related tissue. Dentistry includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) "Preventive dental procedures" including, but not limited to, the removal of calculus, soft deposits, plaque, stains, and floating to shape the teeth above the gum line or the smoothing, filing or polishing of tooth surfaces above the gum line; and
 - (b) "Operative dentistry/oral surgery" or any other dental procedure that invades the hard or soft oral tissue including a procedure that alters the structure of one (1) or more teeth, or repairs damaged and diseased teeth, or the deliberate extraction of one (1) or more teeth.
- (14) "Direct supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is on the premises where the animal is being treated, is quickly and easily available and the animal has been examined by the supervising veterinarian as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires.
 - (15) "Discipline" means board action including, but not limited to:
 - (a) Refusing to issue, renew or reinstate a license, permit or certification to practice as a licensed veterinarian, a certified veterinary technician, a certified euthanasia agency or a certified euthanasia technician;
 - (b) Denial, revocation, suspension, sanction, probation or voluntary surrender of a license, permit or certification to practice as a licensed veterinarian, a certified veterinary technician, a certified euthanasia agency or a certified euthanasia technician;
 - (c) The ability to enter into consent agreements and negotiated settlements with licensed veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians, certified euthanasia agencies and certified euthanasia technicians;
 - (d) The ability to bring an administrative or civil action against any person in or outside of this state who practices veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or who performs euthanasia within this state.
- (16) "Emergency" means that the animal has been placed in a life-threatening condition where immediate treatment is necessary to sustain life.
- (17) "Emergency veterinary facility" means any facility with the primary function of receiving, treating, and monitoring emergency patients during its specified hours of operation or that displays to the public any sign, card, or advertisement that indicates it is an emergency veterinary clinic or hospital. An emergency veterinary facility may be an independent after-hours service, an independent twenty-four (24) hour service, or it may be part of a full-service veterinary medical facility.

(18) "Committee on humane eEuthanasia task force" means a task force committee established by the board for the purposes of training, examining, certifying and inspecting certified euthanasia agencies and certified euthanasia technicians.

- (19) "Extra label use" means the actual or intended use of a human or veterinary drug in an animal in a manner that is not in accordance with the drug's labeling.
- (20) "Floating" means shaping the posterior (cheek) teeth and the incisors (cutting teeth) in horses, mules and donkeys through the use of hand floats, rasps, burs, mechanical files or other file-like instruments to restore balance, allow more efficient mastication, and reduce pain and trauma to the periodontal tissues.
- (21) "Herd, litter or flock" of animals means animals managed as a group for purposes including, but not limited to, breeding, sale, show or food production.
- (22) "Immediate supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is in the immediate area, in audible and visual range of the animal patient and the person treating the patient and the animal has been examined by the supervising veterinarian as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires.
- (23) "In good standing" means, when used in reference to an applicant for licensure or certification, that an applicant:
 - (a) Has not been the recipient of any administrative penalties regarding his practice of veterinary medicine including, but not limited to, fines, formal reprimands, license suspensions or revocations (except for license revocations for nonpayment of license renewal fees) or probationary limitations, or has not entered into any consent agreement or negotiated settlement that contains conditions placed by a board on his professional conduct and practice, including any voluntary surrender of a license; and
 - (b) Has never had his United States drug enforcement administration privileges restricted or revoked; and
 - (c) Is not currently under investigation by another veterinary licensing authority for acts which would provide a basis for disciplinary action in this state, as determined by the board; and
 - (d) Has no physical or mental impairment related to drugs, alcohol, or a finding of mental incompetence by a physician that would limit the applicant's ability to undertake the practice of veterinary medicine in a manner consistent with the safety of a patient or the public; and
 - (e) Has not been convicted of a felony as defined in chapter 1, title 18, Idaho Code; and
 - (f) Has no criminal conviction record or pending criminal charge relating to an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of veterinary medicine. Applicants who have criminal conviction records or pending criminal charges shall require appropriate authorities to provide information about the record or charge directly to the board in sufficient detail to enable the board to make a determination whether the record or charge is substantially related to the practice of veterinary medicine.
- (24) "Indirect supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is not on the premises but is available for immediate contact by telephone, radio or

other means, has given either written or oral instructions for treatment of the animal patient, the animal has been examined by the supervising veterinarian as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires, and the animal, if previously anesthetized, has recovered to the point of being conscious and sternal.

- (25) "Legend/Prescription drug" means any drug which, under federal law, regulation or rule, is required, prior to being distributed or delivered, to be labeled with one (1) of the following statements: "Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to be used by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian," or "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription," or "RX Only," or a drug which is required by any applicable state or federal law, rule or regulation to be distributed or dispensed pursuant to a prescription only, or is restricted to use by licensed practitioners only.
- (26) "Licensed veterinarian" means a person who is validly and currently licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state.
 - (27) "Malpractice" means, but is not limited to:

- (a) Treatment in a manner contrary to accepted veterinary practices and with injurious results; or
- (b) Any professional misconduct or unreasonable lack of professional skill or fidelity in the performance of the professional practice of veterinary medicine; or
- (c) Failure to provide adequate supervision, except in an emergency situation; or
- (d) Allowing an unqualified individual to perform a procedure that is part of the practice of veterinary medicine; or
- (e) The negligent practice of veterinary medicine, as determined by the standard of practice for the area, that results in injury, unnecessary suffering or death.
- (28) "Medical incompetence" means lacking in sufficient medical knowledge or skills or both to a degree likely to endanger the health of patients.
- (29) "Mobile clinic" means a vehicle including, but not limited to, a camper, motor home, trailer or mobile home, used as a veterinary medical facility. A mobile clinic is not required for house calls or farm calls.
- (30) "On-call emergency service" means a veterinary medical facility that is available to provide emergency veterinary services as requested if a veterinarian is available.
- (31) "Owner/Ownership" means ownership as defined by the laws of property and ownership, chapter 1, title 55, Idaho Code, and chapter 1, title 73, Idaho Code.
- (32) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, association, joint venture, cooperative and corporation, or any other group or combination acting in concert; and whether or not acting as principal, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, or as any other kind of legal or personal representative, or as the successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, servant, employee, director, officer, or any other representative of such person.
- (33) "Physical or mental incompetence" means the veterinarian's ability to practice veterinary medicine with reasonable skill and safety is impaired by reason of illness, excessive use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals or any other substance, or as a result of any mental or physical disability.

(34) "Practice of veterinary medicine" in this state, through telephonic, electronic or other means, regardless of the location of the veterinarian, includes veterinary surgery, obstetrics, dentistry, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine and means:

- (a) To directly or indirectly diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent animal disease, deformity, defect, injury or other physical or mental conditions; including the prescribing, dispensing, delivering or administering of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus application, anesthetic or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique, or the use of any obstetrical procedure or any manual or mechanical procedure for artificial insemination, for testing or examining for pregnancy, fertility evaluation, embryo transplant, grading of fresh semen, or to render advice or recommendation with regard to any of the above.
- (b) To represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, an ability and willingness to do any act described in subsection (34) paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- (c) To use any title, words, abbreviations or letter in a manner or under circumstances which induce the belief that the person using them is qualified to do any act described in subsection (34) paragraph (a) of this subsection, except where such person is a licensed veterinarian.
- (35) "Professional supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is in daily contact by telephone, radio or other means with the temporary licensee.
- (36) "Referral" means the transfer of responsibility for diagnosis and treatment from the referring veterinarian to the receiving veterinarian, or from the referring veterinarian to the board-certified specialist, or from the referring veterinarian to an allied health professional.
- (37) "Regular employee" means a person who performs services for the animal's owner other than, or in addition to, feeding, boarding, castrating and dehorning, but does not include independent contractors or agents.
- (38) "Supervision" means the action or process of a supervising veterinarian in directing activities or a course of action for those individuals to whom activities or functions have been assigned or delegated.
- (39) "Supervising veterinarian" means a licensed veterinarian utilizing the services of a temporary licensee, certified veterinary technician, veterinary technician, veterinary technician with a temporary certification, veterinary assistant, certified euthanasia technician, or as provided by rule. A supervising veterinarian shall be individually responsible and liable, regardless of the supervision provided, for all damages arising out of his own acts or omissions and for the performance of any acts and omissions pertaining to the practice of veterinary medicine that are delegated to the temporary licensee, certified veterinary technician, veterinary technician, veterinary assistant or certified euthanasia technician. Nothing herein shall be construed to deprive the board of its disciplinary authority with respect to the temporary licensees, certified veterinary technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants or certified euthanasia technicians.
- (40) "Unethical or unprofessional conduct" means to knowingly engage in conduct of a character likely to deceive or defraud the public, false or mis-

leading advertising or solicitation, obtaining any fee or compensation by fraud or misrepresentation, sharing office space and working in conjunction with any person illegally practicing veterinary medicine, employing either indirectly or directly an unlicensed or uncertified person to perform acts pertaining to the practice of veterinary medicine, except as provided by law or rule, or the violation of any law or rules adopted by the board pertaining to unethical or unprofessional conduct, or that provide a code of professional conduct to be followed and carried out by persons licensed or certified by the board.

(41) "Unlicensed practice" means:

- (a) The practice of veterinary medicine in this state, through telephonic, electronic or other means, regardless of the location of the veterinarian, without a valid, unexpired, unrevoked, and unsuspended active license or certification in this state to do so, except as provided by law or rule; or
- (b) Representing one's self through offerings, advertisements or use of professional titles or designations as being qualified to practice veterinary medicine.
- (42) "Veterinarian" means a person who has received a doctor's degree in veterinary medicine from an accredited or approved school of veterinary medicine or as otherwise provided by law or rule.
- (43) "Veterinarian on call" means a veterinarian is not present at the veterinary medical facility, but is able to respond within a reasonable time to requests for emergency veterinary services.
- (44) "Veterinarian on premises" means a veterinarian is present at the veterinary medical facility and is prepared and qualified to render veterinary services.
- (45) "Veterinary medical facility" means any premises, office, unit, structure, mobile unit, or area utilized for the practice of veterinary medicine other than the premises of an owner when used for treatment of the owner's animal.
- (46) "Veterinary technician" means a person who has graduated from a veterinary technology program accredited or approved by the committee on veterinary technician education and activities of the American veterinary medical association, or other accrediting agency approved by the board, or a person who has received equivalent training as set forth in the rules of the board.
- (47) "Veterinary technology" means the performance of services within the practice of veterinary medicine by a person working under the direction of a supervising veterinarian to perform duties that require an understanding of veterinary medicine in order to carry out the orders of the veterinarian. Veterinary technology does not include prognosis, diagnosis, operative dentistry, deliberate tooth extraction procedures or the prescribing of treatment or performing surgery of any kind.
- SECTION 2. That Section 54-2105, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 54-2105. BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE -- COMPOSITION -- APPOINTMENT -- VACANCY -- QUALIFICATIONS -- COMPENSATION -- REMOVAL -- MEETINGS -- OFFICERS -- REVENUES -- POWERS. (1) A board of veterinary medicine, which shall

consist of six (6) members to be appointed by the governor, is hereby created in the department of self-governing agencies. Five (5) members shall be veterinarians and one (1) member shall be a public member. Each of the five (5) veterinary members shall serve a term of four (4) years as a veterinary board member and a fifth year as a liaison officer, or until his successor is appointed, except that the terms of the first appointees may be for shorter periods to permit staggering of terms whereby one (1) term expires each year. The public member shall serve for a term of three (3) years or until his successor is appointed.

Whenever the occasion arises for an appointment of a veterinary member under this section, the state veterinary medical association or one (1) of the regional veterinary medical associations may nominate three (3) or more qualified persons and forward the nominations to the governor at least thirty (30) days before the date set for the appointment. The governor shall appoint one (1) of the persons so nominated. Vacancies due to death, resignation or removal shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as regular appointments. No person shall serve two (2) consecutive terms, except in the case of a person appointed for less than a full term. Each of the five (5) veterinarians shall be qualified to serve as a member of the board if a graduate of an accredited or approved school of veterinary medicine or, if a graduate of a nonaccredited or nonapproved school, a letter from the educational commission for foreign veterinary graduates (ECFVG) certifying completion of the ECFVG program or a copy of their ECFVG certificate, or verification of successful completion of any educational equivalency program established for the purpose of evaluating an individual's educational knowledge and clinical skills as they relate to the practice of veterinary medicine, as approved and outlined by the rules of the board. In addition to verification of graduation from an accredited or nonaccredited school of veterinary medicine, each of the five (5) veterinary members shall be a resident of this state, and have been licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state for the five (5) years immediately preceding the time of appointment. The public member shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and a resident of this state for five (5) years immediately preceding appointment. No person may serve on the board who is, or was, during the two (2) years preceding appointment, a member of the faculty or trustees of an accredited school of veterinary medicine.

- (2) Each member of the board and $\frac{\text{certified}}{\text{committee on humane}}$ euthanasia $\frac{\text{task force}}{\text{shall be compensated as provided by section 59-509(n)}$, Idaho Code.
- (3) Any member of the board may be removed by the governor at his discretion.
- (4) The board shall meet at least once each year at the time and place fixed by rule of the board. Other necessary meetings may be called by the president of the board by giving notice as may be required by state statute or rule. Except as may otherwise be provided, a majority of the board constitutes a quorum. Meetings shall be open and public except as otherwise provided by the open meeting law, chapter 23, title 6774, Idaho Code.
- (5) The board member serving the fourth year of appointment shall be the president of the board and shall serve as chairman at the board meetings.

(6) The veterinary board member serving the fifth year of appointment shall be the liaison officer of the board and shall render advice, review and mediate complaints, and perform other tasks assigned by the board.

- (7) All revenues received under this chapter shall be paid to the state board of veterinary medicine account created in section 54-2121, Idaho Code, and shall be subject to and administered in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- (8) The responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of this chapter is hereby vested in the board. The board shall have all of the duties, powers and authority specifically granted by or necessary for the enforcement of this chapter and the rules made pursuant thereto, as well as such other duties, powers and authority as it may be granted from time to time by applicable law. The powers vested in the board shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Establish qualifications and prescribe the application format for issuance or renewal of a license to practice as a veterinarian and certification to practice as a veterinary technician, euthanasia agency or euthanasia technician, review each application for compliance with the licensure and certification requirements, issue, renew or deny licenses and certifications. Upon a showing of good cause by a licensee or certificate holder to the board, the board may grant an extension of time for submission of the required application or renewal documentation, including the required number of continuing education hours, as set forth by this chapter or the rules of the board.
 - (b) Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for a license to practice veterinary medicine, or certification to practice veterinary technology or as a euthanasia technician or operate as a certified euthanasia agency in the state.
 - (c) Issue, renew, reinstate, deny, suspend, sanction, reprimand, restrict, limit, place on probation, require voluntary surrender of, or revoke any licenses, certifications or temporary permits or certifications to practice veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanize animals in the state, and may fine and impose other forms of discipline, and enter into consent agreements and negotiated settlements with licensed veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians, certified euthanasia technicians and certified euthanasia agencies consistent with the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted hereunder. Whenever it appears that grounds for discipline exist under this chapter and the board finds that there is an immediate danger to the public health, safety or welfare, the board is authorized to commence emergency proceedings for revocation or other action. Such proceedings shall be promptly instituted and processed under the applicable provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code.
 - (d) Establish a schedule of fees for licensing, certifying and registering veterinarians, veterinary technicians, euthanasia agencies and euthanasia technicians, as well as for the review, approval and administration of national licensing and certification examinations.
 - (e) In addition to the fees specifically provided for herein, the board may assess additional reasonable fees for services rendered to carry out its duties and responsibilities as required or authorized by this

chapter or rules adopted hereunder. Such services rendered shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (i) Issuance of duplicate licenses or certificates;
- (ii) Mailing lists or reports of data maintained by the board;
- (iii) Copies of any documents;

- (iv) Verification of license or certification status;
- (v) Examination review, approval and administration; and
- (vi) Examination materials.
- (f) Upon its own motion or upon any complaint, to initiate and conduct investigations on all matters relating to the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology or the euthanizing of animals. Complaints not filed within one (1) year after the alleged unlawful conduct occurs will not be investigated. If the alleged unlawful conduct is of a continuing nature, the date of the occurrence of such conduct shall be deemed to be any date subsequent to the commencement of the unlawful conduct up to and including the date on which the complaint is filed so long as the alleged unlawful conduct continues.
- (g) Initiate and conduct disciplinary hearings or proceedings on its own or through its designated hearing officer, provided such hearings and proceedings shall be held in conformance with the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, and in connection thereto, to administer oaths, receive evidence, make the necessary determinations, and enter orders consistent with the findings. The board may require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of papers, records, or other documentary evidence and may commission depositions. The board may designate one (1) or more of its members or a person appointed by the state board of veterinary medicine to serve as its hearing officer.
- (h) Employ an executive director who shall be responsible for the performance of the administrative functions of the board and such other duties as the board may direct. The board may also employ or contract with other individuals to provide professional, clerical or other services deemed necessary by the board to effectuate the provisions of this chapter and the rules of the board, and purchase or rent necessary office space, equipment and supplies. The compensation of the executive director and other personnel shall be determined by the board and the executive director shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 53, title 67, Idaho Code.
- (i) Appoint from its own membership one (1) or more members to act as representatives of the board at any meeting within or outside the state where such representation is deemed desirable.
- (j) Bring proceedings in the courts for the enforcement of this chapter or any rules made pursuant thereto.
- (k) For purposes of enforcement of the provisions of this chapter and any rules duly promulgated hereunder, including the levying of civil penalties, assessment and collection of fines, and recovery of costs and paralegal, hearing officer and attorney's fees incurred by the board in investigation and prosecution of complaints, the board shall maintain jurisdiction over individuals, irrespective of their license or certification status (i.e., active, inactive, expired, lapsed, sur-

rendered or disciplined) relative to acts, omissions, complaints and investigations which occurred during the licensure or certification period. Jurisdiction of the board shall also extend to all individuals engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or practicing as a certified euthanasia agency or certified euthanasia technician in this state as defined in section 54-2103, Idaho Code. It is the intent of this subsection that the board's jurisdiction should extend to all licensed or unlicensed or certified or uncertified individuals and that licensees and certification holders cannot divest the board of jurisdiction by changing, surrendering or relinquishing licensure or certification status.

- (1) Establish a certified committee on humane euthanasia task force for the purposes of training, examining, licensing and certifying euthanasia agencies and euthanasia technicians and assess application, training workshop and certification fees. The fees so assessed are continuously appropriated to the board to support the activities of the task force committee.
- (m) Adopt, amend or repeal all sections of this chapter and rules necessary for its government and all rules necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this chapter pursuant to the Idaho administrative procedure act, chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, including the establishment and publication of standards of professional conduct for the practice of veterinary medicine.
- (n) Conduct probationary or other practice and facility inspections necessary for enforcement of this chapter or the rules duly promulgated hereunder or any order, negotiated settlement or probationary agreement of the board and issue administrative citations to alleged violators.