WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1967

ENROLLED Com. Sul Ju SENATE BILL NO. 223

(By Mr. mc Kun iniginal spiner)

PASSED March 10, 1967

In Effect July 1, 1967 Passage

FILED IN THE OFFICE ROBERT D. BAILEY SECRETARY OF STATE THIS DATE <u>3-21-67</u>

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 223

(MR. McKown original sponsor)

[Passed March 10, 1967; in effect July 1, 1967.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact article ten, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirtyone, as amended, relating to the licensing of veterinarians, the regulation of veterinary medicine and to the West Virginia board of veterinary medicine; prescribing the **powers** and duties of such board; and providing penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article ten, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 10. VETERINARIANS.

§30-10-1. Definitions.

19

Unless the context in which used, clearly requires a dif-2 ferent meaning, as used in this article:

3 (a) "Animal" or "animals" means any animal or
4 animals other than man, wild or domestic, living or dead,
5 and includes fowls and birds.

6 (b) "Veterinary medicine" or the "practice of veter-7 inary medicine" means, as the case may be:

8 (1) For a fee or other compensation, to diagnose, 9 treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent any disease, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental 10 condition, of any animal, or to prescribe for or to adminis-11 ter to any animal any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, 12 application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic 13 14 substance or technique, or to render advice or any recommendation with respect to any of the foregoing; 15

16 (2) To represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or
17 privately, an ability and willingness to do any act describ18 ed in subparagraph (b) (1) above; or

(3) To use any title, words, abbreviation, or letters

3 [Enr. Jud. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 223
20 in a manner or under circumstances inducing or tending
21 to induce the belief that the person using them is qualified
22 to do any act described in subparagraph (b) (1) above.
23 (c) "Veterinarian" means a person who has received a
24 doctor's degree in veterinary medicine, or its equivalent,
25 from a school of veterinary medicine.

26 (d) "Licensed veterinarian" means a veterinarian who
27 is validly and currently licensed to practice veterinary
28 medicine in this state.

(e) "School of veterinary medicine" means any veterinary college or division of a university or college which
offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its
equivalent.

(f) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, 33 association, joint venture, cooperative or corporation, or 34 any other group or combination acting in concert, and 35 whether acting as principal, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, 36or as any other kind of legal or personal representative, 37 38 or as the successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, 39 servant, employee, director, officer, or any other repre-40 sentative of any such person.

41 (g) "Board" means the West Virginia board of veter-42 inary medicine.

§30-10-2. License or permit required; exceptions.

No person may, for a fee or other compensation, practice 2 veterinary medicine in this state without a license or a temporary permit issued by the board in accordance with 3 the provisions of this article, which license or permit 4 5 remains unexpired, unsuspended and unrevoked. This article shall, however, not be construed to prohibit: 6

7 (a) Any employee of the federal, state or local govern-8 ment from performing his official duties, as defined by his employing agency; 9

10 (b) Any person who is a regular student in a veterinary school from performing research assigned by his 11 12 instructors, or from working under the direct supervision 13 of a licensed veterinarian during a school vacation period; 14 (c) Any person from advising with respect to or per-15 forming acts which the board has prescribed as accepted 16 livestock management practices;

(d) Any veterinarian regularly licensed in another 17 18 state from consulting with a licensed veterinarian in this 19 state;

(e) The owner of an animal, the owner's employees, or
persons assisting the owner without any fee or compensation, from caring for and treating such animal, except
where the ownership of such animal was transferred for
the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this
article;

26 (f) Any member of the faculty of a veterinary school
27 from performing his regular functions, or any person from
28 lecturing, or giving instructions or demonstrations, at a
29 veterinary school or in connection with a continuing
30 education course or seminar;

31 (g) Any person from selling or applying any pesticide,32 insecticide, or herbicide;

33 (h) Any person from engaging in bona fide scientific
34 research which reasonably requires experimentation in35 volving animals; or

36 (i) Any person from engaging in bona fide scientific
37 research in consultation with a licensed veterinarian in
38 this state.

39 (j) The treatment or relief of any living animal in the
40 case of an emergency or the disposal of the carcass of a
41 dead animal.

42 (k) Any person, with reference to domestic animals, 43 from performing the simple operation of castrating, spaying, dehorning, or from the use of blackleg vaccine and 44 hog cholera serum, or, in case the services of a licensed 45 veterinarian cannot be had within a reasonable time or 46 at a reasonable cost, from performing any of the services 47 described in section one of this article as "Veterinary 48 Medicine" or "Practice of Veterinary Medicine": Pro-49 vided, however, That such person has been regularly per-50 51 forming such services for a period of not less than ten 52 years.

§30-10-3. West Virginia board of veterinary medicine; composition; qualifications for appointment; compensation and expenses; meetings; officers; fund.

The "West Virginia Veterinary Board", heretofore created, shall continue in existence but on and after the effective date of this article shall be known and designated as "The West Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine", and shall consist of five members, not more than three of whom shall belong to the same political party to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent

7 [Enr. Jud. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 223 of the Senate. The three members of the board in office 8 9 on the effective date of this article shall, unless sooner removed, continue to serve until their terms expire and 10 11 until their successors have been appointed and have 12 qualified. On or before July one, one thousand nine hundred sixty-seven, the governor shall appoint one mem-13 14 ber to serve until June thirty, one thousand nine hundred sixty-eight and one member to serve until June 15 16 thirty, one thousand nine hundred seventy, or until their 17 successors have been appointed and have qualified. As the terms of the three members of the board in office 18 19 on the effective date of this article expire and as the terms 20of the two members to be appointed by the governor on or before July one, one thousand nine hundred sixty-21 22seven expire, members shall be appointed for overlapping 23terms of five years, so that one term expires each year, 24 or until their successors have been appointed and have 25 qualified. Any vacancy in the office of a member of the 26 board shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired term of the member whose office shall be 27vacant. No person shall be appointed to two consecutive 28

29 full terms, but a person appointed for a term of less 30 than five years may be appointed to succeed himself. The 31 governor may remove any member of the board for 32 neglect of duty or other sufficient cause.

No person shall be appointed to the board unless he be a graduate of a veterinary school and a resident of this state, and unless he shall have been licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state for at least three years immediately preceding his appointment.

As compensation for his services on the board, each member shall receive, out of the moneys collected hereunder, the sum of twenty-five dollars for each day or substantial portion thereof that he is engaged in the work of the board. Each member shall also be entitled to be reimbursed, out of the moneys collected hereunder, for any reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the discharge of his duties as a member of the board.

46 The board shall meet at least once each year, the time 47 and place of such meeting to be fixed by the board, and 48 at such annual meeting shall elect from its membership 49 a president, a secretary-treasurer and such other officers

9 [Enr. Jud. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 223 50as may be desired. Other meetings of the board may be called by the president on such notice to the other mem-51 bers as may be prescribed by the board. A majority of 52 the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction 53 54 of the business of the board. All meetings of the board 55 shall be open and public, except that the board may meet in closed session to prepare, approve, administer, or grade 56 examinations, to deliberate decisions to be reached on 57 58 disciplinary proceedings, or to review the qualifications of an applicant for a license. 59

60 It shall be the duty of the secretary-treasurer to carry on the correspondence of the board, keep permanent ac-61 counts and records of all receipts and disbursements by 62the board and of all board proceedings, including the dis-63 position of all applications for license, and keep a register 64 of all persons currently licensed by the board. All board 65 records, except as otherwise provided by law, shall be 66 67 open to public inspection during regular office hours. The secretary-treasurer shall furnish to the board a fidelity 68 surety bond in such sum and conditioned as the board 69

70 may require, the cost of such bond to be paid by the board71 out of the moneys collected hereunder.

As soon as possible after the close of each fiscal year, the president and secretary-treasurer shall submit to the the governor a report on the transactions of the board, including an accounting of all moneys received and disbursed.

All moneys received by the board shall be accepted by the secretary-treasurer and deposited by him with the treasurer of the state and credited by the treasurer to an account to be known as the "Board of Veterinary Medicine Fund". All expenses of the board shall be paid from such fund by voucher signed by the secretarytreasurer of the board, and no part of the state's general revenue fund shall be expended for this purpose.

§30-10-4. Powers of the board.

The board shall have the power to:

2 (a) Examine and determine the qualifications and fit3 ness of any applicant for a license to practice veterinary
4 medicine in this state;

5 (b) Issue, renew, deny, suspend or revoke licenses and

6 temporary permits to practice veterinary medicine in
7 this state or otherwise discipline licensed veterinarians
8 consistent with the provisions of this article and reason9 able rules and regulations promulgated by the board as
10 specified in subparagraphs (i) of this section;

(c) Establish and publish annually a schedule of reasonable fees for the licensing and registration of veterinarians, such fee schedule to be based on the board's
anticipated financial requirements for the year;

(d) Conduct investigations for the purpose of discovering violations of this article or grounds for disciplining
licensed veterinarians;

18 (e) Hold hearings as specified in section twelve of this19 article;

20 (f) Employ such full-time or part-time professional, 21 clerical or special personnel as may be necessary to ef-22 fectuate the provisions of this article, and purchase or 23 rent necessary office space, equipment and supplies;

(g) Appoint from its own membership one or more
members to act as an official representative or representatives of the board at any meeting within or without this
state where such representation is deemed desirable;

28 (h) Institute appropriate court proceedings for the
29 enforcement of the provisions of this article or any rea30 sonable rules and regulations of the board promulgated
31 as specified in subparagraph (i) of this section; and

(i) Promulgate, amend or repeal reasonable rules and
regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
twenty-nine-a of this code, to implement the provisions
of this article, including rules and regulations establishing
standards of professional conduct for the practice of
veterinary medicine.

38 The powers enumerated above are granted for the pur-39 pose of enabling the board to effectively supervise the 40 practice of veterinary medicine, and are to be construed 41 liberally to accomplish this objective.

§30-10-5. Status of persons previously licensed.

Any person holding a valid license to practice veteri-2 nary medicine in this state on the date this article be-3 comes effective shall be recognized as a licensed veteri-4 narian and shall be entitled to retain this status so long 5 as he complies with the provisions of this article, includ-6 ing annual renewal of his license to practice veterinary

13 [Enr. Jud. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 223 7 medicine, and his license is not suspended or revoked 8 in accordance with the provisions of this article.

§30-10-6. Application for license; qualifications; action thereon.

Any resident of this state desiring a license to practice 2 veterinary medicine in this state shall make written application therefor to the board. The application shall 3 show that the applicant is (1) either a graduate of a 4 5 school of veterinary medicine accredited by the American veterinary medical association or a graduate of a foreign 6 veterinary school who holds a certificate of competence 7 8 issued by the educational commission for foreign veterinary graduates, (2) twenty-one years of age or over, (3) 9 a citizen of the United States or an applicant for citizen-10 ship, and (4) a person of good moral character, and shall 11 contain such other information and proof as the board 12 13 may require by reasonable rules and regulations promul-14 gated as aforesaid. The application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee specified in the fee schedule estab-15 lished and published by the board. 16

17 If the board determines that an applicant possesses the18 proper qualifications, it shall admit the applicant to the

19 next examination, or if the applicant is eligible for a 20 license without examination under the provisions of section eight of this article, the board may forthwith 21 grant him a license. If an applicant is found not quali-22fied to take the examination or for a license without 23 24 examination, the secretary-treasurer shall immediately 25 notify the applicant in writing of such finding and the 26 grounds therefor. An applicant found not qualified may 27 demand a hearing on the question of his qualifications in accordance with the provisions of section twelve of 28 this article. The application fee of any applicant found 29 30 not qualified shall be returned to such applicant.

§30-10-7. Examinations; issuance or denial of license.

The board shall hold at least one examination during 2 each year and may hold such additional examinations as 3 are necessary. The secretary-treasurer shall give public 4 notice of the time and place of each examination at least 5 one hundred twenty days in advance of the date set for 6 such examination. A person desiring to take an exami-7 nation shall make application for a license at least sixty 8 days before the date of such examination.

9 Procedures concerning the preparation, administration 10 and grading of examinations shall be prescribed by the board. Examinations shall be designed to test the exami-11 nee's knowledge of and proficiency in the subjects and 12 techniques commonly taught in veterinary schools. To 13 pass the examination, the examinee must demonstrate 14 scientific and practical knowledge sufficient to prove him-15 16 self a competent person to practice veterinary medicine in the judgment of the board. All examinees shall be 17 tested by a written examination, supplemented by such 18 19 oral interviews and practical demonstrations as the board may deem necessary. The board may adopt and use the 20examination prepared by the national board of veterinary 21 22examiners.

The secretary-treasurer shall notify each examinee of the result of his examination within forty-five days thereafter, and the board shall issue a license to each person who passes the examination. The application for a license by any person failing an examination shall be denied, but such person shall be admitted to any subsequent examination upon payment of another application fee.

§30-10-8. License without examination.

(a) The board may issue a license without written
2 examination, and, subject to the provisions of subsection
3 (b) of this section, without any type of examination, to
4 a qualified applicant who is a resident of this state and
5 furnishes satisfactory proof that he is a graduate of a
6 veterinary school and who:

7 (1) Has for the five years next prior to filing his 8 application been a practicing veterinarian licensed in a 9 state, territory, or district of the United States whose 10 license requirements, at the time the applicant was first 11 licensed, were substantially equivalent to the require-12 ments of this article; or

13 (2) Has within the three years next prior to filing 14 his application successfully completed an examination 15 conducted by the national board of veterinary examiners. 16 (b) In its discretion, the board may orally or practically examine any person qualifying for licensing under 17 this section, and may enter into agreements for reciprocal 18 licensing with other jurisdictions having substantially 19 20 similar requirements for licensure.

17 [Enr. Jud. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 223 §30-10-9. Temporary permits.

The board may issue without examination a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in this state: 2 (a) To a qualified applicant for license pending exami-3 nation: Provided, That such temporary permit shall ex-4 pire the day after the giving of notice of the results of 5 the first examination held after the permit is issued; or 6 7 (b) To a nonresident veterinarian validly licensed in 8 another state, territory, or district of the United States 9 or a foreign country who pays the registration fee speci-10 fied in the fee schedule established and published by the 11 board. A temporary permit shall not be issued to a non-

12 resident veterinarian for a period of more than sixty
13 days, but may be renewed in the discretion of the board.
14 A temporary permit may be summarily revoked by
15 majority vote of the board without a hearing.

§3-10-10. License renewal.

All licenses shall expire annually on December thirty-2 one of each year, but may be renewed upon payment of 3 the renewal fee specified in the fee schedule established 4 and published by the board. On December one of each

5 year, the secretary-treasurer shall mail a notice to each 6 licensed veterinarian advising such veterinarian that his 7 license will expire on December thirty-one and shall 8 provide him with a form for renewal thereof. The sec-9 retary-treasurer shall issue a certificate of renewal to 10 all persons renewing their licenses under the provisions 11 of this section.

12 Any person may renew an expired license within five 13 years of the date of its expiration by making written 14 application for renewal and paying the current renewal fee plus all delinquent renewal fees. After five years have 15 elapsed from and after the date of expiration, a license 16 may not be renewed, but the former licensee must make 17 18 application for a new license and take and pass the li-19 cense examination.

The board may by rules and regulations provide for the waiving of the renewal fee of a licensed veterinarian during the period when he is on active duty with any branch of the armed services or the public health service of the United States, not to exceed the longer of three years or the duration of a national emergency.
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 §30-10-11. Complaints.

Upon the filing with the board by any person of a verified written complaint against a licensed veterinarian, the board shall notify such veterinarian in writing of the filing of such complaint and shall proceed to hold a hearing thereon as specified in section twelve of this article. **30-10-12. Hearings; administrative procedures act made appli-**

cable; grounds for disciplinary action.

Whenever an application for a license is denied, the 2 applicant therefor may file with the board, within thirty 3 days after notification of such denial, a written demand 4 for a hearing before the board, in which case a hearing 5 shall be held not less than ten days nor more than twenty days after receipt by the board of such demand. When-6 ever a licensed veterinarian is notified by the board, in 7 accordance with the provisions of section eleven of this 8 9 article, that a complaint has been filed against him, a hear-10 ing with respect thereto shall be held by the board not 11 less than twenty days nor more than thirty days after 12 such notification to such licensee.

13 All of the pertinent provisions of article five, chapter

14 twenty-nine-a of this code shall apply to and govern any 15 such hearing and the administrative procedures in con-16 nection with and following such hearing, with like effect 17 as if the provisions of said article five were set forth in 18 extenso in this section.

19 Any such hearing shall be conducted by a quorum of 20the board. For the purpose of conducting any such hear-21 ing, any member of the board shall have the power and 22 authority to issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum 23 in the name of the board, in accordance with the provisions of section one, article five, chapter twenty-nine-a 24 25of this code. All subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum 26 shall be issued and served within the time and for the fees and shall be enforced, as specified in section one, 27 28 article five of said chapter twenty-nine-a, and all of the 29 said section one provisions dealing with subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum shall apply to subpoenas and sub-30 poenas duces tecum issued for the purpose of a hearing 31 hereunder. 32

33 The board may postpone or continue any hearing on its34 own motion, or for good cause shown upon the application

of the applicant or licensee, as the case may be. At any
such hearing the applicant or licensee, as the case may be,
shall have the right to be heard in person and by any attorney at law admitted to practice before any circuit court
of this state.

40 After any such hearing and consideration of all of the 41 testimony, evidence and record in the case, the board 42 shall render its decision in writing. By a concurrence of 43 four members, the board may suspend for a certain time 44 or revoke the license of, or otherwise discipline, any 45 licensed veterinarian for any of the following reasons:

46 (a) The employment of fraud, misrepresentation or47 deception in obtaining his license;

48 (b) An adjudication of insanity;

49 (c) Chronic inebriety or the habitual use of drugs;
50 (d) The use of advertising or solicitation which is false,
51 misleading, or is otherwise deemed unprofessional under
52 reasonable rules and regulations promulgated by the
53 board as aforesaid;

54 (e) Conviction of a felony or other crime involving55 moral turpitude;

56 (f) Incompetence, gross negligence or other malprac-57 tice in the practice of veterinary medicine;

58 (g) Having professional association with or employing59 any person practicing veterinary medicine unlawfully;

60 (h) Fraud or dishonesty in the application or reporting61 of any test for disease in any animal or animals;

62 (i) Failure to keep veterinary premises and equipment63 in a clean and sanitary condition;

64 (j) Failure to report, as required by law, or making65 false report of, any contagious or infectious disease;

(k) Dishonesty or gross negligence in the inspection of
foodstuffs or the issuance of health or inspection certificates;

69 (1) Cruelty to animals;

(m) Revocation of a license to practice veterinary
medicine by another state, territory or district of the
United States on grounds other than nonpayment of any
registration or license fee or fees; or

(n) Unprofessional conduct as defined in reasonable
rules and regulations promulgated by the board as aforesaid.

The written decision of the board shall be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law as specified in section three, article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, and a copy of such decision and accompanying findings and conclusions shall be served upon the applicant or licensee, as the case may be, and his attorney of record, if any.

84 The decision of the board shall be final unless vacated
85 or modified upon judicial review thereof in accordance
86 with the provisions of section thirteen of this article.

§30-10-13. Judicial review.

Any applicant or licensee, as the case may be, adversely affected by a decision of the board rendered after a hear-2 ing held in accordance with the provisions of section 3 twelve of this article is entitled to judicial review thereof. 4 All of the pertinent provisions of section four, article five, 5 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code shall apply to and 6 govern such review with like effect as if the provisions 7 of said section four were set forth in extenso in this 8 9 section.

10 The judgment of the circuit court shall be final unless

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reversed, vacated or modified on appeal to the supreme
court of appeals in accordance with the provisions of
section one, article six, chapter twenty-nine-a of this
code.

15 Legal counsel and services for the board in all appeal 16 proceedings in any circuit court and the supreme court 17 of appeals shall be provided by the attorney general or 18 his assistants, and in appeal proceedings in any circuit 19 court by the prosecuting attorney of the county as well, 20 all without additional compensation.

§30-10-14. Reinstatement or relicensing.

Any person whose license is suspended or revoked 2 may in the discretion of the board be reinstated or re-3 licensed at any time without examination by majority 4 vote of the board on written application made to the 5 board showing cause justifying such reinstatement or 6 relicensing.

§30-10-15. Actions to enjoin violations.

Whenever it appears to the board that any person has2 been or is violating or is about to violate any provision3 of this article or any final decision of the board, the board

may apply in the name of the state, to the circuit court 4 of the county in which the violation or violations or any 5 part thereof has occurred, is occurring or is about to 6 7 occur, or the judge thereof in vacation, for an injunction against such person and any other person who have been, 8 are or are about to be, involved in any practices, acts 9 or omissions, so in violation, enjoining such person or 10 11 persons from any such violation or violations. Such 12 application may be made and prosecuted to conclusion 13whether or not any such violation or violations have 14 resulted or shall result in prosecution or conviction under 15 the provisions of section sixteen of this article.

16 Upon application by the board, the circuit courts of 17 this state may by mandatory or prohibitory injunction 18 compel compliance with the provisions of this article and 19 all final decisions of the board. The court may issue a 20 temporary injunction in any case pending a decision on 21 the merits of any application filed.

The judgment of the circuit court upon any application permitted by the provisions of this section shall be final unless reversed, vacated or modified on appeal to the

25 supreme court of appeals. Any such appeal shall be sought in the manner and within the time provided by 26 27 law for appeals from circuit courts in other civil cases. 28 The board shall be represented in all such proceedings 29by the attorney general or his assistants and in such 30 proceedings in the circuit courts by the prosecuting attorneys of the several counties as well, all without addi-31 32 tional compensation.

§30-10-16. Penalties.

Any person who shall in this state practice veterinary medicine without a currently valid license or temporary 2 permit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon con-3 4 viction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than 5 fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or by 6 imprisonment for not more than ninety days, or both by 7 such fine and imprisonment. Each act of such unlawful practice shall constitute a distinct and separate offense. 8 §30-10-17. Severability.

If any provision of this article or the application thereof 2 to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or 3 invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not

4 affect other provisions or applications of the article, and
5 to this end the provisions of this article are declared to be
6 severable.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect July 1, 1967. Howan Meyer Clerk of the Senate

CaBlankenships

Clerk of the House of Delegates

Howard E Corro-

President of the Senate

H. Laban White

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 17

day of March, 1967.

Huere & frith

Governor

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G	OVERNOR	
Date	3/11/67	
Time	3:45 P.M.	