

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 20, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 6, 2000

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2000

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2842

Introduced by Assembly Member Calderon

March 2, 2000

An act to amend, repeal, and add Sections 4846 and 4846.1 of, and to add and repeal Section 4845 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to veterinary licenses.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2842, as amended, Calderon. Veterinary licenses.

Existing law requires the Veterinary Medical Board to issue licenses to graduates of veterinary colleges approved by the board. If the applicant's school is not recognized by the board, the board may determine the qualifications of the applicant and review the quality of the educational experience attained at the school. The board may adopt rules and regulations to implement the provision.

This bill would require that the board, in considering an application for licensure, recognize an applicant's diploma from a veterinary college approved or accredited by certain United States and foreign veterinary medical organizations, or other accrediting bodies that evaluate veterinary colleges

based upon certain specified criteria. This bill would authorize the board to remove certain accrediting bodies if the board determines that they do not meet the board's education standards. This bill would also require that graduates of certain veterinary colleges be issued temporary licenses upon the passage of particular examinations. The bill would also provide that these graduates would be eligible to receive a permanent license upon the successful completion of one year of experience practice supervised by a licensed California veterinarian. This bill would also provide that, on and after January 1, 2002, a graduate of a nonaccredited or nonapproved veterinary college, after completion of the final year of clinical study at an American Veterinary Medical Association approved or accredited veterinary college, shall be eligible to sit for the State Veterinary Board Examination, the National Veterinary Board Examination, and the California Veterinary Law Examination.

This bill would specify that its provisions would be operative only until January 1, 2006.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4845 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 4845. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the
4 following: through the board's approval process of
5 accreditation organizations, both domestic and foreign,
6 the Legislature does not want that approval to degrade
7 the standards of state licensed veterinarians. The
8 Legislature finds that all state licensed veterinarians are
9 to be of sound education and skilled training, and that
10 they should serve the people of this great state and the
11 animals with care and professionalism.
12 (b) This section shall remain in effect only until
13 January 1, 2006, and on that date is repealed, unless a later
14 enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2006,
15 deletes or extends that date.



1 SEC. 2. Section 4846 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 4846. (a) Applications for a license shall be upon a
4 form furnished by the board and, in addition, shall be
5 accompanied by a diploma or other verification of
6 graduation from a veterinary college recognized by the
7 board. The board shall recognize veterinary colleges
8 approved or accredited by the American Veterinary
9 Medical Association and the Mexican National Council
10 for Veterinary Education or an accrediting body that
11 evaluates veterinary colleges based on the following
12 essential criteria:

13 (1) Organization. An accredited college of veterinary
14 medicine shall be either a freestanding institution of
15 higher education formally recognized as such by its
16 county of location or a major administrative division of a
17 parent institution. The accredited college shall maintain
18 sufficient administrative staff to adequately manage the
19 affairs of the college as appropriate to the enrollment and
20 operation.

21 (2) Finances. An accredited college of veterinary
22 medicine shall have sufficient financial resources to
23 ensure instructional integrity.

24 (3) Physical Facilities and Equipment. All aspects of
25 an accredited college's physical facilities shall provide an
26 appropriate learning environment. All instructional
27 facilities shall be clean, maintained in good repair, and
28 adequate in number, size, and equipment for the
29 instructional purpose intended and the number of
30 students enrolled. Sufficient facilities shall be provided
31 for the faculty offices, libraries, and research laboratories.
32 An accredited college shall maintain, or be formally
33 affiliated with, an acceptable hospital for the humane
34 care and treatment of animals. Appropriate service
35 components, including, but not limited to, pharmacy,
36 radiology, diagnostic support services, and necropsy
37 facilities, shall be provided to support the hospital.

38 (4) Clinical Resources. Normal and deceased animals
39 of various domestic and exotic species shall be available
40 for instructional purposes, either as clinical patients, or



1 provided by the institution. A diverse and sufficient
2 number of surgical and medical patients shall be available
3 to provide the necessary quantity and quality of clinical
4 instruction to ensure the proper clinical educational
5 experience. Clinical experience shall be provided in a
6 setting which provides access to subject matter experts,
7 modern and complete clinical laboratories advanced
8 diagnostic instrumentation, and field services.

9 (5) Library and Learning Resources. Library facilities
10 shall be available for education, research, and continuing
11 education. Library facilities shall be appropriately staffed
12 and adequately funded for both operation and purchase
13 of learning resources.

14 (6) Students. The number of professional degree
15 students shall be consistent with the resources of physical
16 facilities, equipment, clinical accession, number and
17 qualifications of faculty, support staff, and administrative
18 personnel to assure that each graduate will be firmly
19 based in the fundamental principles, scientific
20 knowledge, and physical and mental skills of veterinary
21 medicine.

22 (7) Admission. The college shall have a well-defined
23 and officially stated admissions policy.

24 (8) Faculty. The faculty shall provide competence in
25 all subject matter areas of the curriculum, as well as
26 effective teaching skills. Faculty members shall be
27 sufficient to deliver the educational program of the
28 college.

29 (9) Curriculum. The curriculum shall be sufficient to
30 require students to attain an understanding of the central
31 biological principles and mechanisms that underlie
32 animal health and disease from the molecular and cellular
33 level to organ, organism, and population manifestations.
34 The curriculum shall provide ample opportunities for
35 each student to (A) gain an understanding of the
36 underlying basis for health and disease in a broad range
37 of domestic species; (B) acquire fundamental clinical
38 skills in a variety of species; and (C) develop the values,
39 attitudes, and behaviors necessary to address responsibly
40 the health and well-being of animals.



1 (10) Continuing Education. An accredited college
2 shall contribute to continuing education opportunities to
3 assist veterinarians in meeting changing professional
4 demands and the needs of clients.

5 (11) Research Programs. The research and
6 postgraduate programs of an approved college shall be
7 commensurate with facilities, equipment, resources, and
8 faculty qualifications.

9 (b) The board shall have the authority to recognize
10 additional accrediting bodies that the board determines
11 demonstrate standards consistent with the essential
12 criteria listed in subdivision (a). The entity applying for
13 recognition shall bear all cost associated with the review
14 process.

15 (c) *The board shall conduct an initial review of the*
16 *Mexican National Council for Veterinary Education prior*
17 *to December 31, 2001. As part of this process, the board*
18 *shall review the council's essential criteria for*
19 *accreditation, as well as all written documentation,*
20 *self-study materials, and accreditation reports compiled*
21 *by the Mexican National Council for Veterinary*
22 *Education during site visits conducted at veterinary*
23 *schools already accredited by that entity.*

24 *This review shall include the board observing an actual*
25 *site visit conducted by the Mexican National Council for*
26 *Veterinary Education at a veterinary school applying for*
27 *accreditation. In the event that no school applies for*
28 *accreditation and a site visit is not conducted prior to this*
29 *date, the Mexican National Council for Veterinary*
30 *Education will facilitate, and the board will observe, a site*
31 *visit at a veterinary school already accredited by the*
32 *Mexican National Council for Veterinary Education.*

33 (d) The board shall, on an ongoing basis, ensure that
34 recognized accrediting bodies are applying established
35 essential requirements when accrediting or approving
36 schools under their jurisdiction. That review shall
37 include, but not be limited to, obtaining copies of the
38 records of the accrediting body and participating in site
39 visits conducted by the recognized accrediting body.
40 Recognized accrediting bodies shall accommodate, upon



1 request, observers designated by the board at no cost to
2 the board. Recognized accrediting bodies shall be
3 responsible for all costs associated with this review
4 including, but not limited to, necessary transportation,
5 food, lodging, translation services, incidental expenses,
6 and consulting fees, as deemed appropriate.

7 ~~(d)~~

8 (e) The board shall have the authority at any time to
9 remove a recognized accrediting body upon finding that
10 the accrediting body failed to adequately apply the
11 essential accrediting requirements.

12 If an action for removal of an accrediting body has been
13 commenced, the board shall direct the accrediting body
14 to appear before the board at a time and place specified,
15 to show cause why the action to remove the accrediting
16 authority is not warranted.

17 The board shall have the authority to promulgate
18 regulations necessary to implement this section.

19 ~~(e)~~

20 (f) Graduates of colleges accredited or approved by
21 recognized accrediting bodies other than the American
22 Veterinary Medical Association shall be issued a
23 temporary license upon the completion of all the
24 following:

25 (1) Passage of the State Veterinary Board
26 Examination.

27 (2) Passage of the National Veterinary Board
28 Examination.

29 (3) Passage of the California Veterinary Law
30 Examination.

31 In order to ensure proficiency in English, the
32 aforementioned tests will be administered in English.

33 In order to ensure clinical proficiency, the licensee shall
34 be required to participate in a one-year practice
35 experience under the supervision of a licensed California
36 veterinarian in good standing. Upon successful
37 completion of the one-year practice experience, the
38 board shall issue a license to the applicant.

39 ~~(f)~~



1 (g) This section shall remain in effect only until
2 January 1, 2006, and on that date is repealed, unless a later
3 enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2006,
4 deletes or extends that date.

5 SEC. 3. Section 4846 is added to the Business and
6 Professions Code, to read:

7 4846. (a) Applications for a license shall be upon a
8 form furnished by the board and, in addition, shall be
9 accompanied by a diploma or other verification of
10 graduation from a veterinary college recognized by the
11 board.

12 (b) This section shall become operative on January 1,
13 2006.

14 SEC. 4. Section 4846.1 of the Business and Professions
15 Code is amended to read:

16 4846.1. (a) If the veterinary college from which an
17 applicant is graduated is not recognized by the board, the
18 board shall have the authority to determine the
19 qualifications of those graduates and review the quality of
20 the educational experience attained by them in an
21 unrecognized veterinary college. The board shall have
22 the authority to adopt rules and regulations to implement
23 this provision.

24 (b) On and after January 1, 2002, a graduate of a
25 nonaccredited or nonapproved college of veterinary
26 medicine who has demonstrated a proficiency in English,
27 passed a preclinical examination developed by the
28 National Board Examination Committee or other
29 qualified entity recognized by the board and satisfactorily
30 completed the final year of clinical study at an American
31 Veterinary Medical Association approved or accredited
32 college of veterinary medicine shall be eligible to sit for
33 the State Veterinary Board Examination, the National
34 Veterinary Board Examination, and the California
35 Veterinary Law Examination.

36 (c) This section shall remain in effect only until
37 January 1, 2006, and on that date is repealed, unless a later
38 enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2006,
39 deletes or extends that date.

1 SEC. 5. Section 4846.1 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 4846.1. (a) If the veterinary college from which an
4 applicant is graduated is not recognized by the board, the
5 board shall have the authority to determine the
6 qualifications of those graduates and review the quality of
7 the educational experience attained by them in an
8 unrecognized veterinary college. The board shall have
9 the authority to adopt rules and regulations to implement
10 this provision.

11 (b) This section shall become operative on January 1,
12 2006.

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14 CORRECTIONS

15 **Vote Key — Page 2.**

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