

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Agriculture

SENATE BILL NO. 2756

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-39-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REQUIRE THE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE TO INSPECT THE PREMISES  
3 AND EQUIPMENT OF VETERINARIANS AND TO ESTABLISH SANCTIONS FOR  
4 FAILURE TO KEEP IN SANITARY CONDITION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-39-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 73-39-9. (1) The board shall elect from their members a  
9 president, vice president and secretary-treasurer. The board is  
10 authorized:

11 (a) To adopt reasonable rules governing the practice of  
12 veterinary medicine as are necessary to enable it to carry out and  
13 make effective the purpose and intent of this chapter. Such rules  
14 shall be adopted and promulgated in accordance with the provisions  
15 of this chapter.

16 (b) To adopt rules of professional conduct appropriate  
17 to establish and maintain a high standard of integrity, skills and  
18 practice in the profession of veterinary medicine. In prescribing  
19 such rules of professional conduct, the board may be guided by the  
20 principles of veterinary medical ethics adopted by the American  
21 Veterinary Medical Association and the Mississippi Veterinary  
22 Medical Association.

23 (c) To have its rules printed which shall be  
24 distributed to all licensed veterinarians.

25 (d) To bring proceedings in courts for the enforcement  
26 of this chapter or any rules made pursuant thereto.

27 (e) To hold at least one (1) regular meeting on the  
28 third Tuesday in June each year in the City of Jackson at such

29 time and location as fixed by the board, for the purpose of  
30 conducting examinations of applicants for license to practice  
31 veterinary medicine, the election of officers and to consider any  
32 other business that may properly come before the board. Other  
33 meetings may be held upon the call of the president and secretary  
34 of the board.

35 (f) To pass upon the qualifications of applicants for a  
36 license to practice veterinary medicine in this state, or for a  
37 certificate as an animal technician.

38 (g) To prescribe the subjects, character, manner, time  
39 and place of holding examinations and the filing of applications  
40 for examinations and to conduct the examinations.

41 (h) To issue temporary permits to practice to duly  
42 qualified applicants which shall be signed by the secretary.

43 (i) To provide for, regulate and require all persons  
44 licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter to  
45 renew their license annually; to require as a condition precedent  
46 to such annual renewal the payment of the annual renewal fee as  
47 provided herein; to issue annual renewal licenses to such persons  
48 and to suspend or revoke the license of such persons who fail,  
49 refuse or neglect to renew same or pay such fees.

50 (j) To conduct investigations and hearings upon  
51 complaints calling for discipline of a licensee or applicant for  
52 license.

53 (k) To take testimony on any matter under its  
54 jurisdiction and any member thereof may administer oaths.

55 (l) To issue summons and subpoenas, including subpoenas  
56 duces tecum, for any witness in connection with any matter within  
57 the jurisdiction of the board, which shall be signed by either the  
58 president or the secretary-treasurer of the board.

59 (m) To adopt such forms as it may deem necessary.

60 (2) The board shall inspect veterinary premises and  
61 equipment at least annually and shall promulgate rules and

62 standards to evaluate the sanitary conditions of the premises and  
63 equipment. The board shall establish sanctions for the failure to  
64 keep premises and equipment in accordance with its rules and  
65 standards.

66         **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
67 and after July 1, 2005.