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**BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE**

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BILL REQ. #: H-2436.1/01

ATTY/TYPIST: LL:mos

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

2 **SSB 6037** - H COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Agriculture & Ecology

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.92 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 The legislature recognizes that low-income households may not  
10 receive needed veterinary services for household pets. It is the  
11 intent of the legislature to allow qualified animal control agencies  
12 and humane societies to provide limited veterinary services to  
13 low-income members of our communities. It is not the intent of the  
14 legislature to allow these agencies to provide veterinary services to  
15 the public at large.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.92 RCW  
17 to read as follows:

18 (1)(a) Subject to the limitations in this section, animal care and  
19 control agencies as defined in RCW 16.52.011 and nonprofit humane  
20 societies, that have qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the internal  
21 revenue code may provide limited veterinary services to animals owned  
22 by qualified low-income households. The veterinary services provided  
23 shall be limited to electronic identification, surgical sterilization,  
24 and vaccinations. For purposes of this section, "low-income household"  
25 means the same as in RCW 43.185A.010.

26 (b) Animal control agencies and nonprofit humane societies,  
27 receiving animals on an emergency basis, when the animal owner is  
28 unknown, may provide emergency care, subject to a local ordinance that  
29 defines an emergency situation and establishes temporary time limits.

30 (2) Veterinarians employed at these facilities must be licensed  
31 under this chapter. No officer, director, supervisor, or any other  
32 individual associated with an animal care or control agency or  
33 nonprofit humane society owning and operating a veterinary medical  
34 facility may impose any terms or conditions of employment or direct or  
35 attempt to direct an employed veterinarian in any way that interferes

1 with the free exercise of the veterinarian's professional judgment or  
2 infringes upon the utilization of his or her professional skills.

3 (3) A veterinarian and animal control agencies and humane societies  
4 acting under this section shall, for purposes of providing the limited  
5 veterinary services, meet the requirements established under this  
6 chapter and are subject to the rules adopted by the veterinary board of  
7 governors in the same fashion as any licensed veterinarian or  
8 veterinary medical facility in the state.

9 (4) The Washington state veterinary board of governors shall adopt  
10 rules to ensure that agencies and societies are in compliance with this  
11 section. The limited veterinary medical service authority granted by  
12 this section may be suspended, revoked, or conditioned by a  
13 determination of the board of governors for any act of noncompliance  
14 with this section.

15 (5) The secretary of the department of health may impose fees on  
16 those agencies and societies seeking to provide services under this  
17 section. Any fees imposed shall be solely for the cost of implementing  
18 this section.

19 (6) This section does not limit the authority of a city or county  
20 animal care and control agency to provide veterinary services as  
21 authorized in an ordinance that was approved by the voters and is in  
22 effect on the effective date of this act."

23 Correct the title.

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