

2 **SSB 6037 - H COMM AMD Adopted March 5, 2002**
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. A veterinarian or veterinary technician acting
25 within his or her scope of practice must perform the limited veterinary
26 services. For purposes of this section, "low-income household" means
27 the same as in RCW 43.185A.010.

28 (b) Animal control agencies and nonprofit humane societies,
29 receiving animals on an emergency basis, may provide emergency care,
30 subject to a local ordinance that defines an emergency situation and
31 establishes temporary time limits.

32 (c) Any local ordinance addressing the needs under this section
33 that was approved by the voters and is in effect on the effective date
34 of this act remains in effect.

1 (2) Veterinarians and veterinary technicians employed at these
2 facilities must be licensed under this chapter. No officer, director,
3 supervisor, or any other individual associated with an animal care or
4 control agency or nonprofit humane society owning and operating a
5 veterinary medical facility may impose any terms or conditions of
6 employment or direct or attempt to direct an employed veterinarian in
7 any way that interferes with the free exercise of the veterinarian's
8 professional judgment or infringes upon the utilization of his or her
9 professional skills.

10 (3) Veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and animal control
11 agencies and humane societies acting under this section shall, for
12 purposes of providing the limited veterinary services, meet the
13 requirements established under this chapter and are subject to the
14 rules adopted by the veterinary board of governors in the same fashion
15 as any licensed veterinarian or veterinary medical facility in the
16 state.

17 (4) The Washington state veterinary board of governors shall adopt
18 rules to:

19 (a) Establish registration and registration renewal requirements;

20 (b) Govern the purchase and use of drugs for the limited veterinary
21 services authorized under this section; and

22 (c) Ensure that agencies and societies are in compliance with this
23 section.

24 (5) The limited veterinary medical service authority granted by
25 registration under this section may be denied, suspended, revoked, or
26 conditioned by a determination of the board of governors for any act of
27 noncompliance with this chapter. The uniform disciplinary act, chapter
28 18.130 RCW, governs unregistered operation, the issuance and denial of
29 registrations, and the discipline of registrants under this section.

30 (6) No animal control agency or humane society may operate under
31 this chapter without registering with the department. An application
32 for registration shall be made upon forms provided by the department
33 and shall include the information the department reasonably requires,
34 as provided by RCW 43.70.280. The department shall establish
35 registration and renewal fees as provided by RCW 43.70.250. A
36 registration fee shall accompany each application for registration or
37 renewal.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 2003."

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4 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "services;" strike the
5 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter 18.92
6 RCW; and providing an effective date."

EFFECT: (1) Allows a veterinary technician as well as a veterinarian to perform limited veterinary services and includes veterinary technicians within the other provisions.

(2) Requires animal control agencies and humane societies to register with the Department of Health and specifies application requirements.

(3) Identifies items other than compliance that the Veterinary Board of Governors rules must address, including registration requirements, registration renewal requirements, and purchase and use of drugs.

(4) Applies the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW, to unregistered operation, issuance and denial of registrations, and discipline of registrants.

(5) Makes the provisions effective July 1, 2003.

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