

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6037

57th Legislature
2002 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 11, 2002
YEAS 43 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 5, 2002
YEAS 95 NAYS 1

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6037** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

Approved

FILED

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6037

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & International Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Prentice, Kohl-Welles and Parlette)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing animal care and control agencies and
2 nonprofit humane societies to provide limited veterinarian services;
3 adding new sections to chapter 18.92 RCW; and providing an effective
4 date.

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

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

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

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

17 (1)(a) Subject to the limitations in this section, animal care and
18 control agencies as defined in RCW 16.52.011 and nonprofit humane

1 societies, that have qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the internal
2 revenue code may provide limited veterinary services to animals owned
3 by qualified low-income households. The veterinary services provided
4 shall be limited to electronic identification, surgical sterilization,
5 and vaccinations. A veterinarian or veterinary technician acting
6 within his or her scope of practice must perform the limited veterinary
7 services. For purposes of this section, "low-income household" means
8 the same as in RCW 43.185A.010.

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

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

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

25 (3) Veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and animal control
26 agencies and humane societies acting under this section shall, for
27 purposes of providing the limited veterinary services, meet the
28 requirements established under this chapter and are subject to the
29 rules adopted by the veterinary board of governors in the same fashion
30 as any licensed veterinarian or veterinary medical facility in the
31 state.

32 (4) The Washington state veterinary board of governors shall adopt
33 rules to:

34 (a) Establish registration and registration renewal requirements;

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

37 (c) Ensure that agencies and societies are in compliance with this
38 section.

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

7 (6) No animal control agency or humane society may operate under
8 this chapter without registering with the department. An application
9 for registration shall be made upon forms provided by the department
10 and shall include the information the department reasonably requires,
11 as provided by RCW 43.70.280. The department shall establish
12 registration and renewal fees as provided by RCW 43.70.250. A
13 registration fee shall accompany each application for registration or
14 renewal.

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

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