

"AN ACT TO AMEND THE VETERINARY MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT TO EMPOWER THE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD TO ISSUE LICENSES TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE IN THIS STATE AS A GENERAL PRACTITIONER OR IN A SPECIALTY AREA AS THE BOARD MAY BY REGULATION PROVIDE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Subsection D. of Section 2 Act 650 of 1975, the same being Ark. Stat. Ann. 72-1133 D., is hereby amended to read as follows:

"D. 'LICENSED VETERINARIAN' means a person who is validly and currently licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state as a general practitioner or in a specialty area as the board may by regulation provide."

SECTION 2. Subsection A. of Section 4 of Act 650 of 1975, the same being Ark. Stat. Ann. 72-1135 A., is hereby amended to read as follows:

"A. Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for a license to practice general veterinary medicine or any specialty area thereof and certification of animal technicians in Arkansas, and issue, renew, deny or suspend or revoke licenses or certificates;"

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that there is a shortage of practitioners in specialty areas of veterinary medicine in the State of Arkansas and that the revision of the laws governing the practice of veterinary medicine including but not limited to the certification of animal technicians will help alleviate such shortage and that the immediate passage of this Act is necessary to provide specialty practitioners as a safeguard for the people of the State of Arkansas against dishonest, incompetent and unprincipled practitioners of veterinary medicine. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: February 18, 1987

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