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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

March 1, 2002

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
LIQUOR CONTROL
FIREFIGHTERS' CAUCUS,
COCHAIRMAN EMERITUS

John R. McGinley, Jr., Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
14th Floor, Harrisstown 2
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Chairman McGinley:

This is to advise you that the House Professional Licensure Committee was unable to convene a quorum in time to take formal action on Regulations 16A-658 and 16A-5713. Committee members were forwarded a copy of the regulations and asked that they contact the Chairman with any comments or suggestions, however, none were received. Therefore, the Committee submits no comments.

Please feel free to contact my office if any questions should arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mario J. Civera".

Mario J. Civera, Chairman
House Professional Licensure Committee

MJC/sms
Enclosures

cc: James J. Irrgang, Chairperson
State Board of Physical Therapy
Brian V. Harpster, V.M.D., Chairperson
State Board of Veterinary Medicine
The Honorable C. Michael Weaver
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth

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Regulation 16A-5713

State Board of Veterinary Medicine

PROPOSAL: Regulation 16A-5713 amends 49 PA Code, Chapter 31, regulations of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine. The amendment makes revisions to the procedures to be followed for licensure as a veterinarian or animal health technician. The amendment also deletes references to the costs of the veterinarian and animal health technician licensure examinations because those fees are set by the professional testing organizations and not by the Board.

Regulation 16A-5713 is Final Rulemaking which was delivered to the Professional Licensure Committee on February 11, 2002. The Professional Licensure Committee has until March 3, 2002 to approve or disapprove the regulation.

ANALYSIS: The Board proposes to amend Sections 31.3 and 31.11 which would change the procedure for applying for licensure as a veterinarian by examination. The required examination is the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) which is administered by the National Board Examination Committee (NBEC). Applicants would contact the Board to request examination and licensure applications. Examination applications and the required fee would be sent directly to the NBEC. Applications for licensure would be sent to the Board at least 60 days prior to the first day of the NAVLE testing period.

Section 31.32 would be amended to require applicants for certification as animal health technicians to provide additional information with their applications. Applicants who have been licensed in other states would be required to provide a letter of good standing from the licensure board of each state where the applicant has held a license, reporting the outcome of any disciplinary actions taken against the applicant. Applicants would also be required to provide a statement that they have not been convicted of a drug related felony, unless at least ten years have elapsed from the date of conviction, and demonstrate satisfactory progress in personal rehabilitation since the conviction.

Section 31.33 would be amended to change the application procedure for certification as an animal health technician. Applicants for certification by examination would be required to file an application and the specified fee with the Board, and also file an application for the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE), with the required fee, directly with the professional testing organization. Both applications would be obtained from the testing organization. Applicants for certification by endorsement would obtain the appropriate application form from the Board and file it with the Board.

Section 31.34 would be amended to clarify that applicants for the examination must be graduates of an approved school. Section 31.35 would be amended to delete references to the frequency and specific fee for the examination, since that is determined by the professional testing organization. References to examination fees for veterinarians and animal health technicians

would also be deleted from the Board's schedule of fees, since the fees are determined by the testing organizations.

The Committee recommended that the Board clarify the intent of proposed Section 31.32(a)(5). The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation and amended this section to mirror the language of Sec. 31.11(b), which requires an applicant to submit documentation as a prerequisite to licensure. The Board also adopted the Committee's recommendation that proposed Section 31.32(a)(4) be revised to clarify that the Board will have the discretion to deny certification if a history of disciplinary action is indicated.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the Professional Licensure Committee approve the regulation.

House of Representatives
Professional Licensure Committee
February 25, 2002