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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

2858

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
GAME AND FISHERIES

September 13, 2010

Mr. Kim Kaufman
Executive Director
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: State Board of Veterinary Medicine
Proposed Regulation 16A-5724: License Renewal; Continuing Education

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

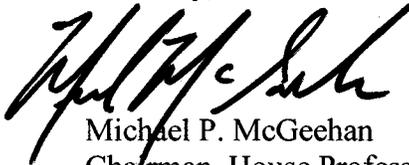
On behalf of the House Professional Licensure Committee, we are submitting the following comments on proposed Regulation 16A-5724: License Renewal; Continuing Education from the State Board of Veterinary Medicine:

1. The Committee brings to the Board's attention that, in the Background and Need for Amendments, reference is made to the fact that the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) program has approved over 400 candidates and is now accepted in 29 "jurisdictions states", including New York and Virginia (spelling was corrected since delivery). The Committee requests a clarification of what is meant by "jurisdictions states".
2. The Committee brings to the Board's attention that, in the Background and Need for Amendments, addressing the deletion of provisions and fees regarding temporary permits, the citation should be corrected to read (63 P.S. §485.10).
3. The Committee brings to the Board's attention that since §31.13, License renewal, is being amended, the fourth sentence should read in part "Upon renewing their licenses, licensees will receive..."
4. The Committee questions that in §31.13(b) whether the District of Columbia is included in the amended reference of "another state, territory, country, or by a Federal authority in the United States".

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5. The Committee requests an explanation for the use of the term licensee in §31.13(e)(i) when referring in a list of individuals who are required to apply for a license in accordance with Section 9 of the Act if practicing veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth is to be resumed. Could reference be made to “veterinarian” as is done in §31.13(e)(ii)-(iii)?
6. The Committee questions the term used for a veterinarian who fails to renew a license. Is the term “holder of an expired license” the technical status or is it “licensee”? Reference is made to a holder of an expired license in §31.13(d) and in newly proposed §31.13(e)(i), lists individuals who will be required to apply for a license in accordance with §9 of the Act as “a licensee who practiced veterinary medicine in this Commonwealth on an expired Pennsylvania license for a period of more than 5 years”. The Committee recommends some consistency in the use of terms.
7. The Committee brings to the Board’s attention that upon publication of the proposed regulation in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, a subheading caption “Veterinary Technicians and Noncertified Employees” was added. In Proposed Regulation 16A-5718 which is winding its way through the process, the term and definition of Noncertified Employee are being deleted and replaced with the term and definition “Veterinary Assistant”. For future consistency, the Committee recommends that the newly proposed term and definition be used in the final rulemaking.

Sincerely,



Michael P. McGeehan
Chairman, House Professional Licensure Committee



Julie Harhart
Republican Chair