

2015 -- H 5430

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - VETERINARY PRACTICE --
ANIMAL AS SECURITY FOR DEBT

Introduced By: Representatives Roberts, Costa, Newberry, Barros, and Casey

Date Introduced: February 12, 2015

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-25-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-25 entitled "Veterinary
2 Practice" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-25-14. Grounds for refusal to issue, refusal to renew, revoke, or suspend a license.**

4 **--** The division has the power to deny, revoke or suspend any license issued under this chapter or
5 otherwise discipline a licensee upon proof of the following:

6 (1) Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; conviction of a felony; and
7 conviction of a crime arising out of the practice of veterinary medicine;

8 (2) Addiction to narcotics, habitual drunkenness, or rendering professional services to a
9 patient while the veterinarian is intoxicated or incapacitated by the use of drugs;

10 (3) Knowingly placing the health of a client at serious risk without maintaining proper
11 precautions;

12 (4) Fraud or misrepresentation in any phase of procuring or renewing a license;

13 (5) Unprofessional conduct, which includes the matters set forth in the section or other
14 matters as further defined in regulations of the division;

15 (6) Advertising designed to mislead the public;

16 (7) Representing certain procedures are performed with greater authority or expertise;

17 (8) Fraud or misrepresentation of treatment procedures or statements regarding the
18 ability to treat;

- 1 (9) Fee splitting or kickbacks of any kind, except where services are provided jointly;
- 2 (10) Failure to maintain acceptable sanitation standards;
- 3 (11) Malpractice, gross negligence, or wanton disregard of accepted professional
- 4 standards;
- 5 (12) Adjudication of mental incompetence;
- 6 (13) Lack of fitness to practice by reason of mental or physical impairment or otherwise;
- 7 or
- 8 (14) Any other grounds to deny, revoke or suspend a license as provided for in the rules
- 9 and regulations.
- 10 [\(15\) Failure to return an animal to the owner thereof, solely as a consequence of an](#)
- 11 [unpaid bill for treatment.](#)

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - VETERINARY PRACTICE --
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- 1 This act would make it a disciplinary offense for a veterinarian's failure to return an
- 2 animal after treatment, solely because of an unpaid bill.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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