

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1789

S.P. 624

In Senate, March 9, 1999

An Act to Improve the Licensing Procedures for Veterinarians.

Reference to the Committee on Business and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative GAGNON of Waterville and
Senators: KILKELLY of Lincoln, KONTOS of Cumberland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

2
4 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §4859, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 246, §11, is further amended to read:

6 **4. Establish schedule of fees.** Establish a schedule of
8 fees for the licensing of veterinarians and registration of
10 veterinary technicians. The board shall set the fees in an
12 amount not to exceed \$150 for veterinarians and \$75 for
14 veterinary technicians. Upon application for license renewal by a veterinarian who no longer maintains an active practice but wishes to continue to remain licensed, the board, upon review of each individual's circumstances, may set an inactive license fee not to exceed \$25.

16 **Sec. 2. A §4863**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 246, §20, is
18 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

20 **§4863. License renewal**

22 All licenses expire annually on a date designated by the commissioner and must be renewed with the board by payment of a renewal fee established by the board. At least 60 days before the expiration of a current license, the board shall mail to each licensee at the licensee's last known address a notice of the requirement to renew the license with appropriate application forms for the renewal. If, within 30 days before the expiration of a licensee's current license, the licensee fails to return to the board a completed application either to renew the license or to withdraw from licensure, the board shall notify the licensee as soon as possible at the licensee's last known address that the license renewal is past due. Thirty days after the notice has been sent, if the application has neither been submitted by the licensee nor returned by the United States Postal Service as undeliverable, the board shall notify the licensee by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the licensee's license has been administratively suspended for 30 days. If the certified mail receipt shows that the licensee has received notice of suspension and an administratively complete relicensure application is not submitted within the 30-day period of administrative suspension, the license immediately and automatically lapses. If a certified mail receipt is not received by the board, the administrative suspension of the license is extended for a period of one year from the expiration date of the license, after which the license immediately and automatically lapses.

48 An administratively suspended license may be renewed upon payment of a late fee of \$10 in addition to the renewal fee and submission of an administratively complete relicensure application.

2 When a license has lapsed, a formerly licensed veterinarian
3 may be reinstated upon payment of a reinstatement application
4 processing fee of \$100. The applicant is subject to all
5 requirements governing new applicants under this chapter, except
6 that the board, giving due consideration to the protection of the
7 public, may waive examination if that renewal application is made
8 within 2 years of the expiration date of the lapsed license.

9
10 By rule the board may waive the payment of the registration
11 renewal fee of a licensed veterinarian during the period that the
12 applicant is on active duty with any branch of the Armed Services
13 of the United States, not to exceed the longer of 3 years or the
14 duration of a national emergency.

16 SUMMARY

17 The Board of Veterinary Medicine recently placed in effect a
18 major increase in license fees. This bill enables the board to
19 charge a lesser fee for the veterinarians who are no longer
20 engaged in active practice but who want to remain licensed.
21

22 This bill also clarifies administrative procedures for the
23 relicensing of veterinarians by establishing provisions very
24 similar to those governing the relicensing of physicians.