

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
120TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 228, L.D. 265, Bill, "An Act to Protect Animals and Ensure the Public Has Notice Regarding Veterinary Fees and Care"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §4875 is enacted to read:

**§4875. Notice of services**

A person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine who maintains a facility where veterinary medicine is practiced and animals are kept overnight shall provide a written notice regarding the after-hours staffing policies for the facility to any person who is responsible for an animal and who is releasing that animal to the facility. The notice must include the staffing levels and approximate times that a staff member is present during the hours that the facility is not regularly open to the public. The person responsible for releasing the animal to the facility shall sign and date the notice to acknowledge receipt of the notice. A copy of the signed notice must be kept in the animal's patient file.

A person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine who fails to comply with this section is subject to discipline by the board.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**FISCAL NOTE**

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The State Board of Veterinary Medicine within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will incur some minor additional costs to investigate complaints associated with noncompliance. These costs can be absorbed within the board's existing budgeted resources.'

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**SUMMARY**

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This amendment replaces the bill. It requires a person who maintains a facility where veterinary medicine is practiced and animals are kept overnight to provide written notice of staffing policies to a person leaving an animal at the facility. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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