

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 115

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND FIVE.

AN ACT to regulate the practice of Veterinary Surgery, Medi-
cine and Dentistry.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section 1. A board is hereby established to be known as
2 the State Board of Veterinary Examiners; said board shall
3 be composed of three veterinary surgeons, residents in the
4 State, who are graduates from some legally chartered veter-
5 inary college or university having the power to confer
6 degrees in veterinary surgery, and who shall have been
7 actively employed in the practice of their profession for a
8 period of at least five years. On or before May first, nine-
9 teen hundred five, the governor shall appoint the members
10 of said board to serve as follows: one for one year, one for

11 two years, and one for three years, and thereafter he shall
12 annually appoint one member of said board for the term of
13 three years. Any vacancy in said board shall be filled by
14 appointment by the governor, within thirty days after such
15 vacancy shall arise, of a person, qualified as aforesaid, to hold
16 office during the unexpired term of the member whose place
17 he fills. Any member of said board may be removed from
18 office, for cause, by the governor, with the advice and consent
19 of the council.

Sect. 2. Said board shall organize annually in the month
2 of May by the election of one of its members as president,
3 one as secretary, and another as treasurer, and may adopt
4 such rules, not in conflict with the laws of the State, as they
5 may deem proper to carry into effect the provisions of this
6 act. They shall also adopt a seal which shall be affixed to all
7 certificates issued by them in accordance with the provisions
8 of this act, which certificate shall be signed by the president
9 and secretary. No member of the board shall receive any
10 fee, compensation, or remuneration for the performance of
11 any duty required of him by the provisions of this act, except
12 for actual disbursements and expenses incurred by reason of
13 the performance of the duties herein required, which dis-
14 bursements and expenses shall be paid out of fees received
15 by the treasurer of said board under the provisions of section
16 five of this act. The treasurer shall annually, on the first
17 day of April, make written report to the governor and coun-
18 cil of all receipts and expenditures of said board. If any
19 balance should then appear in his hands in excess of one hun-
20 dred dollars, after paying all disbursements and expenses
21 then incurred by the members of the board, he shall pay such
22 balance to the treasurer of State, who shall apply the same
23 to the permanent school fund.

Sect. 3. On and after September first, nineteen hundred
2 five, it shall be unlawful for any person to practice veterinary
3 surgery, medicine, or dentistry, or any branch thereof, within
4 the State, without having previously obtained a certificate
5 from the State Board of Veterinary Examiners and being
6 registered as herein provided.

Sect. 4. Any person who shall be engaged in the practice
2 of veterinary surgery, medicine, or dentistry, or any branch
3 thereof in this State, on the date of the approval of this act,
4 may lawfully continue such practice upon condition that he
5 shall, on or before September first, nineteen hundred five,
6 register his name and address with said State Board of Vet-
7 erinary Examiners and give satisfactory proof to said board
8 that he was so in practice on said date of approval. Any
9 person shall be regarded as practicing veterinary surgery,
10 medicine, or dentistry, or any branch thereof, within the
11 meaning of this act, who has publicly professed to be a veter-
12 inary surgeon, or has prescribed for sick or injured animals
13 and accepted fees for such services, or has attached to his
14 name the title "V. S." or "veterinary surgeon," or any vet-
15 erinary title ordinarily used. Nothing in this act shall be
16 construed as prohibiting the performance of gratuitous ser-
17 vices rendered by any one in case of emergency, nor prohibit-
18 ing any person from practicing veterinary medicine, surgery,
19 or dentistry, on any animal belonging to himself; nor shall
20 this act be construed as prohibiting castration of animals by
21 any resident of this State.

Sect. 5. All persons who shall commence the practice of
2 veterinary surgery, medicine, or dentistry, or any branch
3 thereof, within the State after May first, nineteen hundred
4 five, shall be graduates of a legally chartered veterinary
5 school, college, or university, having the power to confer
6 degrees in veterinary surgery, and shall pass an examination

7 to the satisfaction of said board of examiners. Applicants
8 for examination as herein provided, shall file with the secre-
9 tary of the board their written request for such examination
10 and pay to the treasurer of said board a fee of five dollars
11 before being permitted to take such examination.

Sect. 6. The board of examiners shall issue certificates to
2 all persons qualified to receive them under the provisions of
3 section four and to all persons passing the examination
4 required under section five, authorizing the holder to practice
5 veterinary surgery, medicine, or dentistry, or any branch
6 thereof, within the State. Said certificate shall be recorded
7 in the office of the clerk of the supreme judicial court in the
8 county wherein the holder resides at the time of passing said
9 examination. Said clerk shall be entitled to a fee of fifty cents
10 for making such record and in the absence of the original
11 certificate an attested copy of such record shall be received
12 as evidence in all courts within the State of the right of the
13 person therein named to practice veterinary surgery, medi-
14 cine, or dentistry, or any branch thereof, within the State.

Sect. 7. It shall be the duty of said board of examiners to
2 keep a record of all practitioners who shall qualify under the
3 provisions of this act, and to register therein the name, age,
4 and time spent in the study and practice of veterinary sur-
5 gery, medicine and dentistry, and, if a graduate, the name
6 and location of the school or college granting his diploma.
7 Such record shall be open to public inspection at all times,
8 within reasonable hours, at the office of the secretary of the
9 board.

Sect. 8. The president of said board shall have power to
2 administer oaths and to take testimony for the proper
3 enforcement of this act and the rules established by said
4 board.

Sect. 9. Any person who shall practice veterinary surgery,
2 medicine or dentistry, or any branch thereof, in the State of

3 Maine, after September first, nineteen hundred five, without
4 complying with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed
5 guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall
6 be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or
7 by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than thirty
8 days.

Sect. 10. Said board shall meet as a board of examiners in
2 the city of Augusta, on the second Monday in January and
3 July of each and every year, when there are applicants for
4 examination, and at such other times and places as they may
5 find necessary for the performance of their duties.



STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, February 10, 1905.

Reported by Mr. PURINTON from Committee on Agriculture and
ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk*.