

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 7

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to regulate the Practice of Veterinary Surgery,
Medicine 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 the
2 State Board of Veterinary Examiners; said board shall be
3 composed of three practicing veterinary surgeons who are
4 graduates from some recognized veterinary colleges. Within
5 thirty days after this act becomes a law, the governors shall
6 appoint the members of said board as follows: One for one
7 year, one for two years, and one for three years, and there-
8 after he shall appoint yearly one member of said board to
9 hold his office for the term of three years. In the event of
10 a vacancy by reason of the resignation, death, or removal
11 of any member of said board, the governor shall appoint his

12 successor within thirty days thereafter to fill out the unex-
13 pired term.

Sect. 2. The State board of veterinary examiners shall
2 elect from its members a president, secretary, and treasurer,
3 and may adopt such rules as shall not conflict with the laws of
4 the State as they may deem proper to carry into effect the
5 provisions of this act. They may also adopt a seal, which
6 shall be affixed to all certificates issued by them, and all such
7 certificates shall be signed by the president and secretary.
8 The members of the board shall neither require nor accept
9 from any person any fee for services rendered in their official
10 capacity as such members other than herein prescribed
11 (except their actual travelling and necessary expenses). All
12 fees received by the treasurer of said board under any provi-
13 sion of this act shall be by him turned into the State treasury.

Sect. 3. It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to
2 practice veterinary surgery, medicine or dentistry, or any
3 branch thereof (in the State of Maine), without having pre-
4 viously obtained a certificate from the State board of veteri-
5 nary examiners, and being registered as hereinafter pro-
6 vided.

Sect. 4. Any person who shall have practiced veterinary
2 surgery and medicine as a profession in this State for five
3 years immediately preceding the approval of this act shall be
4 permitted to continue the practice of said veterinary surgery
5 and medicine, upon condition that he shall, within ninety days
6 after this act shall take effect, register his name and address
7 with said board of veterinary examiners, and give satisfac-
8 tory proof to said board that he has so practiced in the State

9 of Maine and is qualified to register under the provisions of
10 this act. Any person shall be regarded as practicing veteri-
11 nary surgery, medicine or dentistry, or any branch thereof,
12 within the meaning of this act, who has publicly professed
13 to be a veterinary surgeon or has prescribed for sick and
14 injured animals, and has accepted fees for such services, or
15 has attached to his name the title "V. S." or "Veterinary
16 Surgeon," or any veterinary title in a medical sense. But
17 nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit gratuitous
18 services of any one in a case of emergency.

Sect. 5. All persons *hereafter* commencing the practice of
2 veterinary surgery, medicine or dentistry, or any branch
3 thereof, in the State of Maine, shall be graduates of a legally
4 authorized and recognized veterinary school, college or uni-
5 versity; and shall pass an examination satisfactory to the
6 board of examiners. Applicants for certificates shall file their
7 application with the secretary of the board and pay to the
8 treasurer of said board a fee of five dollars in advance.

Sect .6. If said board of examiners finds that the applicant
2 is qualified therefor it shall issue to such applicant a cer-
3 tificate to practice veterinary surgery, medicine or dentistry,
4 or any branch thereof, in this State, and said certificate shall
5 be conclusive as to the rights of the lawful holder thereof,
6 and shall be by him recorded in the office of the clerk of the
7 county wherein he resides; provided, however, that said
8 board shall have power to reject any applicant who fails to
9 pass the required examination or for any reason is not fully
10 qualified under the provisions of this act.

Sect. 7. It shall be the duty of said board of examiners to
2 keep a register of all practitioners qualified under the pro-
3 visions of this act, and to register the name, age, and time
4 spent in the study and practice of veterinary surgery, medi-
5 cine and dentistry, and if a graduate, the name and location
6 of the school or college granting his diploma. Such record
7 shall be prima facie evidence of all matters therein recorded,
8 and shall be open to public inspection at all times, within rea-
9 sonable hours, at the office of the secretary of the board.
10 Such register shall be turned over to each succeeding board
11 of examiners.

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 practicing veterinary surgery, medi-
2 cine or dentistry, or any branch thereof, in the State of Maine,
3 without complying with the provisions of this act, shall be
4 deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof
5 shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars, nor
6 more than three hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the
7 county jail for not less than ten nor more than sixty days,
8 or by both fine and imprisonment for each and every offence ;
9 and all fines collected in accordance herewith shall be paid
10 to the State treasurer. The expenses of said board incurred
11 in the line of its duties shall be paid from the fund so held
12 by the State treasurer on warrants drawn on the State treas-
13 urer by the Governor and Council. No other money shall
14 be paid out of the State treasury for the use and purpose of

15 this act. Any excess in this fund shall stand to the credit of
16 said board.

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. The
6 members of said board shall be reimbursed for their actual
7 expenses in holding such meetings from the fund held by the
8 State treasurer.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 13, 1905.

Pending reference to Committee on Legal Affairs in concurrence, laid on table to be printed on motion by Mr. CLARK of Hancock.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary*.