

Executive Officer's Report

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The mission of the Veterinary Medical Board is to protect consumers and animals through development and maintenance of professional standards, licensing of veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians, and registered veterinary premises and diligent enforcement of the California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

Sunset Review.

The Board held a meeting on September 5, 2012, and it was a very productive with a page by page review of the draft Sunset Report. There was much discussion and many changes and amendments to the draft report. Staff worked on a short turnaround time to get the corrections entered and back to the Board members for a final review. The second round of edits was completed and the draft sent back to publications for formatting and then out in the meeting binders on October 5, 2012.

The final report is due to the Legislature on November 1, 2012, so the October 16/17 meeting will be the last chance for comments and updates. Following that meeting, staff will be scrambling to get the report finalized, to DCA for publishing and then down to the Legislature by the deadline. Usually, once the report is submitted, the Legislature will come back to the Board in about 30 to 60 days with additional questions and there is a written response to those questions. The Board will need to delegate the response to staff and the two Board committees since we will most likely need to respond prior to the January meeting.

The Legislative hearings on the bill to extend our sunset date will most likely be held around March 2013 and the Board members and Executive Officer will be responding in person to questions from the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee.

Legislation

1. SB 969 (Vargas) – Pet Groomers – This bill did not pass this session.
2. AB 1839 (Ma) – Section 4836.1 – Controlled Substances – this bill passed and is effective January 1, 2013.
SB 1162 – Animal Control: Tranquilizers – Requires Board approved training.

Regulations

RVT Regulations. The proposed RVT regulations to further define the requirements for all schools in California including AVMA approved schools and programs will be noticed by November 20, 2012, for a public hearing in January 2013. The regulations for the transition to the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) are up for discussion and if adopted, could be included in the public hearing notice for January. Staff will be working with the Board's RVT Committee to develop concept language for approval of RVT programs offering curriculum for eligibility under CCR Section 2068.5 (alternate route) and will then send that language out to interested parties for comment and input prior to the January meeting.

Disciplinary Guidelines. The regulations for the Disciplinary Guidelines went out for a 15-day notice in September 2012. If there are no comments it will move forward to the DCA by the first part of November.

License Plate Regulations. Our new legal counsel is working on the license plate regulations; however, they are somewhat complex and need additional work before coming to the Board for a decision. It is anticipated that the language will come to the Board at its January meeting and possibly for a public hearing in April 2013.

Enforcement

The Board Member Enforcement Training day is now on Tuesday, January 29, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. so that all Board members can participate. The Board meeting is on Wed/Thurs. January 30/31, 2013. Diann Sokoloff, Deputy Attorney General, Liaison and Sandra Monterrubio are working together to develop the overall training programs so send any questions that you have had or think about regarding enforcement cases or the process to Sandra.