

collect a filing fee, not to exceed \$100, from applicants for a veterinary assistant controlled substances permit.

Action Requested:

Discussion - no action requested.



Senate Bill No. 304 - EXCERPTED

CHAPTER 515

An act to amend Sections 159.5, 160.5, 2001, 2020, 2021, 2135.7, 2177, 2220.08, 2225.5, 2514, 2569, 4800, 4804.5, 4809.5, 4809.7, and 4809.8 of, to amend, repeal, and add Sections 160 and 4836.1 of, to amend and add Section 2006 of, and to add Sections 2216.3, 2216.4, 2403, 4836.2, 4836.3, and 4836.4 to, the Business and Professions Code, to amend Sections 11529, 12529.6, and 12529.7 of, and to amend and repeal Sections 12529 and 12529.5 of, the Government Code, to amend Section 1248.15 of the Health and Safety Code, and to amend, repeal, and add Section 830.3 of the Penal Code, relating to healing arts, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor October 03, 2013. Filed with Secretary of State
October 03, 2013.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 304, Lieu. Healing arts: boards.

(1) Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of physicians and surgeons by the Medical Board of California. Existing law authorizes the board to employ an executive director. Existing law provides that those provisions will be repealed on January 1, 2014, and, upon repeal, the board is subject to review by the Joint Sunset Review Committee.

This bill would instead repeal those provisions on January 1, 2018, and subject the board to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature. The bill would authorize the board to employ an executive director by, and with the approval of, the Director of Consumer Affairs.

Existing law authorizes the board to issue a physician and surgeon's license to an applicant who acquired all or part of his or her medical education at a foreign medical school that is not recognized by the board if, among other requirements, the applicant has held an unlimited and unrestricted license as a physician and surgeon in another state or federal territory and has continuously practiced for a minimum of 10 years prior to the date of application or to an applicant who acquired any part of his or her professional instruction at a foreign medical school that has previously been disapproved by the board if, among other requirements, the applicant has held an unlimited and unrestricted license as a physician and surgeon in another state or federal territory and has continuously practiced for a minimum of 20 years prior to the date of application. For the purposes of these provisions, the board may combine the period of time that the applicant has held an unlimited and unrestricted license, but requires each applicant to have a minimum of 5 years continuous licensure and practice in a single state or federal territory.

This bill would instead authorize the board to issue a physician and surgeon's license to an applicant who acquired any part of his or her medical education from an unrecognized medical school if, among other requirements, the applicant has held an unlimited and unrestricted license as a physician and surgeon in another state, a federal territory, or a Canadian province and has continuously practiced for a minimum of 10 years prior to the date of application, or from a disapproved medical school if, among other requirements, the applicant has held an unlimited and unrestricted license as a physician and surgeon in another state, a federal

and imprisonment. Multiple acts by a health care facility in violation of subdivision (b) shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and shall be reported to the State Department of Public Health and shall be considered as grounds for disciplinary action with respect to licensure, including suspension or revocation of the license or certificate.

(d) A failure or refusal of a licensee to comply with a court order, issued in the enforcement of a subpoena, mandating the release of records to the board constitutes unprofessional conduct and is grounds for suspension or revocation of his or her license.

(e) Imposition of the civil penalties authorized by this section shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

(f) For purposes of this section, "certified medical records" means a copy of the patient's medical records authenticated by the licensee or health care facility, as appropriate, on a form prescribed by the board.

(g) For purposes of this section, a "health care facility" means a clinic or health facility licensed or exempt from licensure pursuant to Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200) of the Health and Safety Code.

SEC. 16. Section 2403 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

2403. The provisions of Section 2400 do not apply to physicians and surgeons or doctors of podiatric medicine enrolled in approved residency postgraduate training programs or fellowship programs.

SEC. 17. Section 2514 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

2514. (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a bona fide student from engaging in the practice of midwifery in this state, as part of his or her course of study, if both of the following conditions are met:

(1) The student is under the supervision of a licensed midwife or certified nurse-midwife, who holds a clear and unrestricted license in this state, who is present on the premises at all times client services are provided, and who is practicing pursuant to Section 2507 or 2746.5, or a physician and surgeon.

(2) The client is informed of the student's status.

(b) For the purposes of this section, a "bona fide student" means an individual who is enrolled and participating in a midwifery education program or who is enrolled in a program of supervised clinical training as part of the instruction of a three year postsecondary midwifery education program approved by the board.

SEC. 18. Section 2569 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

2569. Notwithstanding any other law, the powers and duties of the board, as set forth in this chapter, shall be subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature. The review shall be performed as if this chapter were scheduled to be repealed as of January 1, 2018.

SEC. 19. Section 4800 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4800. (a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a Veterinary Medical Board in which the administration of this chapter is vested. The board consists of the following members:

(1) Four licensed veterinarians.

(2) One registered veterinary technician.

(3) Three public members.

(b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

(c) Notwithstanding any other law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature. However, the review of the board shall be limited to those issues identified by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and shall not involve the preparation or submission of a sunset review document or evaluative questionnaire.

SEC. 20. Section 4804.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4804.5. The board may appoint a person exempt from civil service who shall be designated as an executive officer and who shall exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated by the board and vested in him or her by this chapter.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 21. Section 4809.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4809.5. The board may at any time inspect the premises in which veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, or veterinary surgery is being practiced. The board's inspection authority does not extend to premises that are not registered with the board. Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the board's ability to investigate alleged unlicensed activity or to inspect a premises for which registration has lapsed or is delinquent.

SEC. 22. Section 4809.7 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4809.7. The board shall establish a regular inspection program that will provide for random, unannounced inspections. The board shall make every effort to inspect at least 20 percent of veterinary premises on an annual basis.

SEC. 23. Section 4809.8 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4809.8. (a) The board shall establish an advisory committee to assist, advise, and make recommendations for the implementation of rules and regulations necessary to ensure proper administration and enforcement of this chapter and to assist the board in its examination, licensure, and registration programs. The committee shall serve only in an advisory capacity to the board and the objectives, duties, and actions of the committee shall not be a substitute for or conflict with any of the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the board. The committee shall be known as the Veterinary Medicine Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee. The multidisciplinary committee shall consist of nine members. The following members of the multidisciplinary committee shall be appointed by the board from lists of nominees solicited by the board: four licensed veterinarians, two registered veterinary technicians, and one public member. The committee shall also include one veterinarian member of the board, to be appointed by the board president, and the registered veterinary technician member of the board. Members of the multidisciplinary committee shall represent a sufficient cross section of the interests in veterinary medicine in order to address the issues before it, as determined by the board, including veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians, and members of the public.

(b) Multidisciplinary committee members appointed by the board shall serve for a term of three years and appointments shall be staggered accordingly. A member may be reappointed, but no person shall serve as a member of the committee for more than two consecutive terms. Vacancies occurring shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term, within 90 days after they occur. Board members of the multidisciplinary committee shall serve concurrently with their terms of office on the board.

(c) The multidisciplinary committee shall be subject to the requirements of Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(d) Multidisciplinary committee members shall receive a per diem as provided in Section 103 and shall be compensated for their actual travel expenses in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Human Resources.

(e) The board may remove a member of the multidisciplinary committee appointed by the board for continued neglect of a duty required by this chapter, for incompetency, or for unprofessional conduct.

(f) It is the intent of the Legislature that the multidisciplinary committee, in implementing this section, give appropriate consideration to issues pertaining to the practice of registered veterinarian technicians.

SEC. 24. Section 4836.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4836.1. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary

assistant may administer a drug, including, but not limited to, a drug that is a controlled substance, under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian when done pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian. However, no person, other than a licensed veterinarian, may induce anesthesia unless authorized by regulation of the board.

(b) Prior to authorizing a veterinary assistant to obtain or administer a controlled substance by the order of a supervising veterinarian, the licensee manager in a veterinary practice shall conduct a background check on that veterinary assistant. A veterinary assistant who has a drug- or alcohol-related felony conviction, as indicated in the background check, shall be prohibited from obtaining or administering controlled substances.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), if the Veterinary Medical Board, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy, identifies a dangerous drug, as defined in Section 4022, as a drug that has an established pattern of being diverted, the Veterinary Medical Board may restrict access to that drug by veterinary assistants.

(d) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Direct supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (e) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(3) "Drug" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 11014 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) "Indirect supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (f) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(e) This section shall become inoperative on the later of January 1, 2015, or the date Section 4836.2 becomes operative, and, as of January 1 next following that date, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before that date, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative is repealed.

SEC. 25. Section 4836.1 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4836.1. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant may administer a drug, including, but not limited to, a drug that is a controlled substance, under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian when done pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian. However, no person, other than a licensed veterinarian, may induce anesthesia unless authorized by regulation of the board.

(b) A veterinary assistant may obtain or administer a controlled substance pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian, only if he or she meets both of the following conditions:

(1) Is designated by a licensed veterinarian to obtain or administer controlled substances.

(2) Holds a valid veterinary assistant controlled substance permit issued pursuant to Section 4836.2.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), if the Veterinary Medical Board, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy, identifies a dangerous drug, as defined in Section 4022, as a drug that has an established pattern of being diverted, the Veterinary Medical Board may restrict access to that drug by veterinary assistants.

(d) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Direct supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (e) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(3) "Drug" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 11014 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) "Indirect supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (f) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(e) This section shall become operative on the date Section 4836.2 becomes operative.

SEC. 26. Section 4836.2 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4836.2. (a) Applications for a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit shall be upon a form furnished by the board.

(b) The fee for filing an application for a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit shall be set by the board in an amount the board determines is reasonably necessary to provide sufficient funds to carry out the purposes of this section, not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100).

(c) The board may deny, suspend, or revoke the controlled substance permit of a veterinary assistant after notice and hearing for any cause provided in this subdivision. The proceedings under this section shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions for administrative adjudication in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The board may revoke or suspend a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit for any of the following reasons:

(1) The employment of fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in obtaining a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit.

(2) Chronic inebriety or habitual use of controlled substances.

(3) Violating or attempts to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of this chapter, or of the regulations adopted under this chapter.

(d) The board shall not issue a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit to any applicant with a state or federal felony controlled substance conviction.

(e) The board shall revoke a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit upon notification that the veterinary assistant to whom the license is issued has been convicted of a state or federal felony controlled substance violation.

(f) (1) As part of the application for a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit, the applicant shall submit to the Department of Justice fingerprint images and related information, as required by the Department of Justice for all veterinary assistant applicants, for the purposes of obtaining information as to the existence and content of a record of state or federal convictions and state or federal arrests and information as to the existence and content of a record of state or federal arrests for which the Department of Justice establishes that the person is free on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial or appeal.

(2) When received, the Department of Justice shall forward to the Federal Bureau of Investigation requests for federal summary criminal history information that it receives pursuant to this section. The Department of Justice shall review any information returned to it from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and compile and disseminate a response to the board summarizing that information.

(3) The Department of Justice shall provide a state or federal level response to the board pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 11105 of the Penal Code.

(4) The Department of Justice shall charge a reasonable fee sufficient to cover the cost of processing the request described in this subdivision.

(g) The board shall request from the Department of Justice subsequent notification service, as provided pursuant to Section 11105.2 of the Penal Code, for persons described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (f).

(h) This section shall become operative upon the later of January 1, 2015, or the effective date of the statute in which the Legislature makes a determination that the board has sufficient staffing to implement this section.

SEC. 27. Section 4836.3 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4836.3. (a) Each person who has been issued a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit by the board pursuant to Section 4836.2 shall biennially apply for renewal of his or her permit on or before the last day of the applicant's birthday month. The application shall be made on a form provided by the board.

(b) The application shall contain a statement to the effect that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony, has not been the subject of professional disciplinary action taken by any public agency in California or any other state or territory, and has not violated any of the provisions of this chapter. If the applicant is unable to make that statement, the application shall contain a statement of the conviction, professional discipline, or violation.

(c) The board may, as part of the renewal process, make necessary inquiries of the applicant and conduct an investigation in order to determine if cause for disciplinary action exists.

(d) The fee for filing an application for a renewal of a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit shall be set by the board in an amount the board determines is reasonably necessary to provide sufficient funds to carry out the purposes of this section, not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50).

(e) This section shall become operative on the date Section 4836.2 becomes operative.

SEC. 28. Section 4836.4 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4836.4. (a) Every person who has been issued a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit by the board pursuant to Section 4836.2 who changes his or her mailing or employer address shall notify the board of his or her new mailing or employer address within 30 days of the change. The board shall not renew the permit of any person who fails to comply with this section unless the person pays the penalty fee prescribed in Section 4842.5. An applicant for the renewal of a permit shall specify in his or her application whether he or she has changed his or her mailing or employer address and the board may accept that statement as evidence of the fact.

(b) This section shall become operative on the date Section 4836.2 becomes operative.

SEC. 29. Section 11529 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11529. (a) The administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel established pursuant to Section 11371 may issue an interim order suspending a license, or imposing drug testing, continuing education, supervision of procedures, or other license restrictions. Interim orders may be issued only if the affidavits in support of the petition show that the licensee has engaged in, or is about to engage in, acts or omissions constituting a violation of the Medical Practice Act or the appropriate practice act governing each allied health profession, or is unable to practice safely due to a mental or physical condition, and that permitting the licensee to continue to engage in the profession for which the license was issued will endanger the public health, safety, or welfare. The failure to comply with an order issued pursuant to Section 820 of the Business and Professions Code may constitute grounds to issue an interim suspension order under this section.

(b) All orders authorized by this section shall be issued only after a hearing conducted pursuant to subdivision (d), unless it appears from the facts shown by affidavit that serious injury would result to the public before the matter can be heard on notice. Except as provided in subdivision (c), the licensee shall receive at least 15 days' prior notice of the hearing, which notice shall include affidavits and all other information in support of the order.

(c) If an interim order is issued without notice, the administrative law judge who issued the order without notice shall cause the licensee to be notified of the order, including affidavits and all other information in support of the order by a 24-hour delivery service. That notice shall also include the date of the hearing on the order, which shall be conducted in accordance with the requirement of subdivision (d), not later than 20 days from the date of issuance. The order shall be dissolved unless the requirements of subdivision (a) are satisfied.

(d) For the purposes of the hearing conducted pursuant to this section, the licentiate shall, at a minimum, have the following rights:

(1) To be represented by counsel.

(2) To have a record made of the proceedings, copies of which may be obtained by the licentiate upon payment of any reasonable charges associated with the record.

(3) To present written evidence in the form of relevant declarations, affidavits, and documents.

The discretion of the administrative law judge to permit testimony at the hearing conducted pursuant to this section shall be identical to the discretion of a superior court judge to permit testimony at a hearing conducted pursuant to Section 527 of the Code of Civil Procedure.