

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 3053

BY DELEGATES FOSTER, J. PACK AND STEELE

[Introduced March 10, 2021; Referred to the
Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
then Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact § 30-10-10 and §30-10-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as
 2 amended, relating to veterinary nurse technicians, defining the requirements to become a
 3 veterinary nurse technician; and clarifying the scope of practice for veterinary technician
 4 nurses.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. VETERINARIANS.

§30-10-10. Requirements for a registered veterinary technician nurse.

1 (a) To be eligible for a registration to practice veterinary technology under the provisions
 2 of this article, the applicant must:

3 ~~(1) Be of good moral character;~~
 4 ~~(2)-(1) Have a degree in veterinary technology from an accredited school, approved by the~~
 5 ~~board;~~

6 ~~(3) (2) Have passed the VTNE (Veterinary Technician National Examination) examinations~~
 7 ~~required by the board;~~

8 ~~(4) (3) Be at least 18 years of age;~~
 9 ~~(5) Be a citizen of the United States or be eligible for employment in the United States;~~
 10 ~~(6) Not have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;~~

11 ~~(7) Not have been convicted of a felony under the laws of any jurisdiction within five years~~
 12 ~~preceding the date of application for registration which conviction remains unreversed; and~~

13 ~~(8) (4) Not have been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony under the laws of any~~
 14 ~~jurisdiction at any time if the offense for which the applicant was convicted related to the practice~~
 15 ~~of veterinary technology or animal abuse or neglect.~~

16 ~~(b) A person seeking registration under the provisions of this~~
 17 ~~article shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the board and pay all applicable~~
 18 ~~fees.~~

19 ~~(c) A person registered to practice veterinary technology issued by the board prior to July~~

20 ~~1, 2010, shall for all purposes be considered registered under this article and may renew pursuant~~
21 ~~to the provisions of this article~~

§30-10-11. Scope of practice for registered veterinary technician nurse.

1 (a) A registered veterinary technician nurse may do the following under general
2 supervision:

3 (1) Administer anesthesia, including induction, intravenous sedation, and maintenance
4 and recovery from anesthesia;

5 (2) Perform dental prophylaxis;

6 (3) Establish open airways;

7 (4) Administer resuscitative oxygen procedures;

8 (5) Administer resuscitative drugs, in the event of cardiac arrest;

9 (6) Administer immunizations that are not required by law to be administered by a licensed
10 veterinarian;

11 (7) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients for surgery;

12 (8) Assist the veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic, medical, chemotherapeutic and
13 surgical procedures; and

14 (9) Perform external suturing.

15 (b) A registered veterinary technician nurse may do the following under either general or
16 indirect supervision:

17 (1) Perform diagnostic imaging;

18 (2) Perform intravenous catheterization;

19 (3) Administer and apply medications and treatments by oral intramuscular, intravenous
20 and subcutaneous routes;

21 (4) Apply bandages;

22 (5) Perform cardiac and respiratory monitoring;

23 (6) Perform appropriate procedures to control bleeding;

24 (7) Apply temporary splints or immobilizing bandages;

25 (8) Perform ear flushing;

26 (9) Collect specimens; and

27 (10) Perform laboratory procedures.

28 (c) A veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse may, without supervision, use emergency treatment
29 procedures when an animal has been placed in a life-threatening condition and immediate
30 treatment is necessary to sustain the animal's life. The ~~registered~~
31 veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse shall immediately take steps to secure the general supervision of a
32 veterinarian.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to define the requirements and scope of practice for veterinary nurses.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.