

REFERENCE TITLE: **veterinarian board membership**

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

SB 1394

Introduced by
Senator Kavanagh

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-2202 AND 32-2235, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO VETERINARIANS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-2202, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 32-2202. Board members; appointment; terms; qualifications;
5 officers; compensation

6 A. ~~There shall be an~~ THE Arizona state veterinary medical examining
7 board IS ESTABLISHED consisting of ~~nine~~ ELEVEN members WHO ARE appointed
8 by the governor pursuant to section 38-211.

9 B. Each member shall serve for a term of four years. A member
10 shall not serve more than two full terms. After notice and a hearing
11 before the governor, a member of the board may be removed on a finding by
12 the governor of continued neglect of duty, incompetence or unprofessional
13 or dishonorable conduct. The term of any member automatically ends on THE
14 MEMBER'S written resignation submitted to the board or to the governor.

15 C. ~~Five~~ SIX members shall be licensed veterinarians who have an
16 established practice location in this state or are employed by a
17 university or a political subdivision of ~~the~~ THIS state and who have
18 resided and practiced in ~~the~~ THIS state for at least five years
19 immediately preceding appointment, ~~no~~ NOT more than three of whom shall be
20 from the same veterinary college. ~~Three~~ ONE OF THE LICENSED VETERINARIAN
21 MEMBERS MUST BE A ROTATING BOARD-CERTIFIED VETERINARY SPECIALIST. FOUR
22 members shall not be veterinarians, two representing the general public,
23 ~~and~~ one representing the livestock industry AND ONE REPRESENTING A HUMANE
24 SOCIETY. One member shall be a certified veterinary technician who has
25 held the designation for at least five years, is currently employed in the
26 veterinary field in this state and has practiced and resided in this state
27 for at least five years immediately preceding appointment. Except as
28 provided in subsection F of this section, a person who has been convicted
29 of ~~a violation of any provision of~~ VIOLATING this chapter is ineligible
30 for appointment.

31 D. The board shall elect a ~~chairman~~ CHAIRPERSON and ~~such~~ other
32 officers as it deems necessary. The term of each officer shall be one
33 year ending June 30, ~~or~~ or until the officer's successor is elected and
34 qualifies.

35 E. Each member of the board shall receive compensation at a rate OF
36 not ~~exceeding one hundred dollars~~ MORE THAN \$100 for each day engaged in
37 the service of the board.

38 F. The governor may appoint a person to the board who has
39 previously been sanctioned pursuant to section 32-2233, subsection B.

40 Sec. 2. Section 32-2235, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
41 read:

42 32-2235. Complaints

43 A. Any person may file a complaint against a licensee for a
44 violation of this chapter. Except as provided in subsection C OF THIS
45 SECTION, complaints shall be submitted in proper form and signed by the

1 complainant. Each complaint shall be turned over to an appointed staff
2 investigator who shall compile the written complaint and the written
3 response and may verify statements and any evidence submitted by the
4 complainant and the respondent.

5 B. If after completion of this preliminary investigation the staff
6 investigator believes that there would not be a violation of this chapter
7 if the allegations were proven to be true or if the complaint does not
8 fall under the jurisdiction of the board, the board shall review the
9 written information and investigative report at a scheduled board meeting,
10 at which time the board may dismiss the complaint or proceed as otherwise
11 authorized.

12 C. A complaint may be anonymous if it is regarding either of the
13 following:

14 1. Substance abuse by a veterinarian or certified veterinary
15 technician.

16 2. A person committing the unlicensed practice of veterinary
17 medicine.

18 D. The board, on its own initiative and based on information from
19 any source, may investigate any alleged violation of this chapter.

20 E. THE BOARD SHALL NOTIFY A COMPLAINANT IN ITS INITIAL CONTACT WITH
21 THE COMPLAINANT THAT DURING AN INVESTIGATIVE HEARING OR MEETING BEFORE THE
22 BOARD THE VETERINARIAN MAY BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY AND THE
23 COMPLAINANT MAY BRING AN ATTORNEY TO THE HEARING OR MEETING.

24 Sec. 3. Retention of members

25 Notwithstanding section 32-2202, Arizona Revised Statutes, as
26 amended by this act, all persons serving as members of the Arizona state
27 veterinary medical examining board on the effective date of this act may
28 continue to serve until the expiration of their normal terms. The
29 governor shall make all subsequent appointments as prescribed by statute.