S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6886--A

I N S E N A T E

April 4, 2012

Introduced by Sens. GOLDEN, OPPENHEIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing free spaying and neutering services in lieu of self-instructional course work for continuing education requirements for veterinarians

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 6704-a of the education law, as added by chapter 328 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

2. (A) During each triennial registration period an applicant for registration shall complete a minimum of forty-five hours of acceptable formal continuing education, a maximum of twenty-two and one-half hours of which may be self-instructional coursework acceptable to the department.

(I) SELF-INSTRUCTIONAL COURSEWORK MAY INCLUDE FREE SPAYING AND NEUTERING SERVICES IN CONJUNCTION WITH A MUNICIPALITY, DULY INCORPORATED NOT-FOR-PROFIT SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, DULY INCORPORATED HUMANE SOCIETY, OR DULY INCORPORATED ANIMAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION PROVIDED THAT SUCH SERVICES BE ADMINISTERED AT PRACTICES, FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SECTION SIXTY-SEVEN HUNDRED SIX OF THIS ARTICLE.

(II) THE DEPARTMENT MAY OFFSET UP TO THREE HOURS OF THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH BY THE NUMBER OF FREE SPAYING AND NEUTERING SERVICES RENDERED BY AN APPLICANT, AT A RATE OF ONE-HALF OF ONE HOUR OF CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR EACH HOUR OF FREE SPAYING AND NEUTERING SERVICES, PROVIDED THAT A VETERINARIAN SHALL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE CORE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(III) THE DEPARTMENT MAY REDUCE, IN PART, AN APPLICATION BY A LICENSEE TO OFFSET CREDITS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS, IN ITS DISCRETION, THAT THE APPLICANT REQUIRES FORMAL CONTINUING EDUCATION IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN OR RESTORE PROFESSIONAL

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD04668-13-2

COMPETENCE, OR MAY DENY ALL APPLICATIONS IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT FORMAL CONTINUING EDUCATION IS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY.

(B) Any veterinarian whose first registration date following the effective date of this section occurs less than three years from such effective date, but on or after January first, two thousand twelve, shall complete continuing education hours on a prorated basis at the rate of one and one-quarter hours per month for the period beginning January first, two thousand twelve up to the first registration date thereafter. A licensee who has not satisfied the mandatory continuing education requirements shall not be issued a triennial registration certificate by the department and shall not practice unless and until a conditional registration certificate is issued as provided in subdivision three of this section, or until he or she has otherwise met the requirements of this section. The individual licensee shall determine the selection of courses or programs of study pursuant to subdivision four of this section.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.