

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend SB70
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the printed Bill
Of the Engrossed Bill

By striking the Title, the Enacting Clause, the entire bill, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Adopted: _____

Amendment submitted by: Jerry Shoemake

Reading Clerk

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 70

6 By: Ballenger and Crutchfield
7 of the Senate

8 and

9 Hyman of the House

10 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to professions and occupations;
12 creating the Large Animal Veterinarian Incentive Act;
13 defining terms; establishing a veterinary training
14 program; providing for administration of program;
15 providing for development and implementation;
16 providing for certain agreements; providing for
17 certain assistance; specifying requirements for
18 participation in the program; providing for
19 satisfaction of obligations; authorizing the
20 Veterinary Center to adopt additional provisions,
21 requirements and conditions; prohibiting program
22 agreements after a certain date; providing that
23 agreements entered into before a certain date are
24 valid; providing for codification; and providing an
effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 698.31 of Title 59, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Large Animal
2 Veterinarian Incentive Act".

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 698.32 of Title 59, unless there
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 As used in the Large Animal Veterinarian Incentive Act:

7 1. "Veterinary Center" means the Center for Veterinary Health
8 Sciences at Oklahoma State University;

9 2. "Program" means the veterinary training program for rural
10 Oklahoma established pursuant to Section 3 of this act; and

11 3. "Program agreement" means an agreement to meet all the
12 obligations provided in Section 3 of this act by a person who is a
13 first-year veterinary student at the Veterinary Center or currently
14 practicing large animal veterinarian in exchange for the benefits
15 provided in Section 3 of this act.

16 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 698.33 of Title 59, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. There is hereby established the veterinary training program
20 for rural Oklahoma to be administered by the Oklahoma State
21 University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences. The program shall
22 be developed and implemented in order to provide encouragement,
23 opportunities, and incentives for persons pursuing a veterinary
24 medicine degree at Oklahoma State University to locate their

1 veterinary practice in rural Oklahoma communities, and receive
2 specialized training targeted to meet the needs of livestock
3 producers in rural Oklahoma communities.

4 B. Subject to available funds, each year the Veterinary Center
5 may enter into program agreements with up to three first-year
6 veterinary students or currently practicing large animal
7 veterinarians with qualifying school loans, as determined by the
8 Veterinary Center. Preference shall be given to those students and
9 large animal veterinarians who are Oklahoma residents and who agree
10 to serve in a community as described in paragraph 3 of subsection D
11 of this section, which is determined by the Veterinary Center to be
12 an underserved area for the practice of veterinary medicine.

13 C. Subject to available funds, each student or large animal
14 veterinarian entering into a program agreement under this section
15 shall receive assistance in an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand
16 Dollars (\$20,000.00) per year for not more than four (4) years for
17 tuition, books, supplies, and other school expenses, and travel and
18 training expenses incurred by the student in pursuing a veterinary
19 medicine degree. Upon satisfaction of all commitments under the
20 provisions of the agreement and the provisions of this section, the
21 financial obligations pursuant to this section shall be deemed
22 satisfied and forgiven.

23 D. Each program agreement shall require that the person
24 receiving the assistance:

1 1. Complete the veterinary medicine degree program at the
2 Veterinary Center;

3 2. Complete all requirements in public health, livestock
4 biosecurity, foreign animal disease diagnosis, regulatory veterinary
5 medicine and zoonotic disease, and an externship and mentoring
6 requirement with a licensed, accredited veterinarian in rural
7 Oklahoma as required by the Veterinary Center;

8 3. Engage in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in
9 any community in Oklahoma which has a population not exceeding
10 twenty-five thousand (25,000) as determined by the most recent
11 Federal Decennial Census at the time the person entered into the
12 program agreement for a period of at least twelve (12) continuous
13 months for each separate year a student receives assistance under
14 the program, unless the obligation is otherwise satisfied as
15 provided in this section. If, after the date a program agreement
16 was entered into by the parties, a community no longer meets the
17 maximum population requirements provided in this paragraph, a person
18 engaging in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine pursuant
19 to the program agreement shall continue to practice in that
20 designated community; and

21 4. Commence the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in
22 that community within ninety (90) days after completion of the
23 person's degree program, or if the person enters a postdegree
24 training program, such as a graduate school or internship or

1 residency program, within ninety (90) days after completion of the
2 postdegree training program.

3 E. Upon the failure of a person to satisfy the obligation to
4 engage in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in
5 accordance with the provisions of this section, that person shall
6 repay to the Veterinary Center, within ninety (90) days of the
7 failure, the amount equal to the assistance provided to the person
8 less a prorated amount based on any periods of practice of
9 veterinary medicine meeting the requirements of this section, plus
10 interest at the prime rate of interest plus two percent (2%) from
11 the date the assistance accrued. The interest shall be compounded
12 annually.

13 F. An obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary
14 medicine in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be
15 postponed during:

16 1. Any period of temporary medical disability during which the
17 person obligated is unable to practice veterinary medicine due to
18 the disability; and

19 2. Any other period of postponement agreed to or determined in
20 accordance with criteria agreed to in the practice agreement.

21 G. An obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary
22 medicine in accordance with the provisions of the agreement and this
23 section shall be satisfied:

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1 1. If the obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary
2 medicine in accordance with the agreement has been completed;

3 2. If, because of permanent disability, the person obligated is
4 unable to practice veterinary medicine; or

5 3. The person who is obligated dies.

6 H. The Veterinary Center may adopt additional provisions,
7 requirements, or conditions to participate in this program as are
8 practicable and appropriate to accomplish the provisions of the
9 program or may be required for the implementation or administration
10 of the program, and are not inconsistent with the provisions of this
11 section.

12 I. The Veterinary Center shall not enter into any program
13 agreements pursuant to the provisions of this section after July 1,
14 2018. All agreements entered into prior to such date shall be
15 valid.

16 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2008.

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18 51-2-10731 SAB 03/27/08

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