

## FLOOR AMENDMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend SB776 \_\_\_\_\_  
Of the printed Bill  
Page \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Lines \_\_\_\_\_  
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: Carl Newton

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reading Clerk

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

FLOOR SUBSTITUTE  
FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 776

By: Murdock and Hamilton of the  
Senate

and

Newton of the House

FLOOR SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to professions and occupations;  
amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 698.33, which relates  
to the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act; modifying  
veterinary training program for rural Oklahoma;  
updating references; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 698.33, is  
amended to read as follows:

Section 698.33 A. There is hereby established the veterinary  
training program for rural Oklahoma to be administered by the  
Oklahoma State University ~~Center for~~ College of Veterinary Health  
~~Sciences~~ Medicine. The program shall be developed and implemented  
in order to provide encouragement, opportunities and incentives for  
persons pursuing a veterinary medicine degree at Oklahoma State

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

4 B. Subject to available funds, each year the Veterinary ~~Center~~  
5 College may enter into program agreements with up to ~~three first-~~  
6 year five 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 focused on large animal veterinarians veterinary medicine who are  
10 Oklahoma residents and who agree to serve in a community as  
11 described in paragraph 3 of subsection D of this section, which is  
12 determined by the Veterinary ~~Center~~ College to be an underserved  
13 area for the practice of veterinary medicine.

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

1 D. Each program agreement shall require that the person  
2 receiving the assistance:

3 1. Complete the veterinary medicine degree program at ~~the~~  
4 ~~Veterinary Center~~ Oklahoma State University;

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

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

23 4. Commence the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in  
24 that community within ninety (90) days after completion of the

1 person's degree program, or if the person enters a postdegree  
2 training program, such as a graduate school or internship or  
3 residency program, within ninety (90) days after completion of the  
4 postdegree training program.

5 E. Upon the failure of a person to satisfy the obligation to  
6 engage in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in  
7 accordance with the provisions of this section, that person shall  
8 repay to the Veterinary ~~Center~~ College, within ninety (90) days of  
9 the failure, the amount equal to the assistance provided to the  
10 person less a prorated amount based on any periods of practice of  
11 veterinary medicine meeting the requirements of this section, plus  
12 interest at the prime rate of interest plus ~~two~~ four percent ~~(2%)~~  
13 (4%) from the date the assistance accrued. The interest shall be  
14 compounded annually.

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

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

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

1 G. An obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary  
2 medicine in accordance with the provisions of the agreement and this  
3 section shall be satisfied:

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

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

8 3. The person who is obligated dies.

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

15 I. The Veterinary ~~Center~~ College shall not enter into any  
16 program agreements pursuant to the provisions of this section after  
17 July 1, 2025. All agreements entered into prior to such date shall  
18 be valid.

19 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
20 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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24 58-2-11317 LRB 04/13/22

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