# **S.B. 232** 132nd General Assembly (As Introduced)

Sens. Thomas, Yuko, Tavares, Schiavoni

### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Allows a licensed veterinarian to receive up to two continuing education credits every two years for performing free spaying and neutering services in accordance with the bill.
- Specifies that for every one hour of free spaying and neutering services performed, a veterinarian receives 1/2 hour of continuing education credits.
- Requires a veterinarian to provide free follow-up services for any post-operative complications that arise within 24 hours of performing the surgery, and requires the State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board to adopt policies and procedures regarding those post-operative services.

#### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

# Continuing education hours for free spaying and neutering services

The bill allows a licensed veterinarian to receive a maximum of two continuing education hours every two years if the licensed veterinarian performs free spaying and neutering services in accordance with the bill. Specifically, the licensed veterinarian is eligible to receive the credit hours if the licensed veterinarian does all of the following:

- (1) Provides the spaying and neutering services at a practice, facility, or property that is appropriately equipped and staffed to provide the services;
- (2) Performs the services in conjunction with a county humane society, a county dog pound, a municipal dog pound, or a nonprofit organization dedicated to animal protection and welfare; and

(3) Provides free follow-up services for any post-operative complications related to the surgery that arise within 24 hours of performing the surgery. The bill requires the State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board to adopt policies and procedures regarding the free follow-up services.

For every one hour of spaying and neutering services a veterinarian performs, the veterinarian receives 1/2 hour of continuing education credit.<sup>1</sup>

### **Current veterinarian continuing education requirements**

Under current law, a license or limited license to practice veterinary medicine issued by the State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board expires on March 1 of every even numbered year. A licensed veterinarian may renew their license or limited license after fulfilling continuing education requirements and paying a required renewal fee. Generally, a licensed veterinarian must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that the licensed veterinarian has completed 30 hours of continuing education during the two years immediately preceding renewal of the licensed veterinarian's license or limited license. The licensed veterinarian must demonstrate to the Board that they have met the established continuing education requirements as to form and content.<sup>2</sup>

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HISTORY		
ACTION	DATE	
Introduced	11-14-17	
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Legislative Service Commission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R.C. 4741.16(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R.C. 4741.16(A) and (B). See also Ohio Administrative Code 4741-1-11 (2017).