



# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Terry Steele

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

**Bill:** S.B. 232 of the 132nd G.A.

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sen. Thomas

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Subject:** Allows licensed veterinarians to receive up to two continuing education credits for performing spaying and neutering services

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The bill allows a licensed veterinarian to receive a maximum of two continuing education hours every two years if the individual performs free spaying and neutering services provided at designated locations. These locations may include the veterinarian's clinic, a county humane society, county or municipal dog pound, or facilities of a qualifying nonprofit animal welfare group. Specifically, the bill allows a veterinarian to receive one-half hour of continuing education credit for every hour of free spaying and neutering services performed. The bill further specifies that the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board is required to adopt any rules necessary to allow for these continuing education hours. Overall, the bill may result in some small amount of additional administrative burden for the Board to develop and promulgate any rules necessary to allow for these continuing education hours.

Currently, a veterinary license issued by the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board expires on March 1 of even-numbered years. In order to renew these licenses, an individual must pay a renewal fee and demonstrate to the Board that the required 30 hours of continuing education have been completed. According to current guidelines, at least 20 hours must be scientifically related to the practice of veterinary medicine; no more than ten hours may be nonscientific. According to LSC's Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Board Report for FY 2017, the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board oversaw about 4,500 active veterinary and limited veterinary licenses statewide. The Board is funded through licensing revenues deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90).

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