

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018**

**S. B. No. 232**

**Senator Thomas**

**Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Tavares, Schiavoni**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4741.16 of the Revised Code to  
allow a licensed veterinarian to receive up to  
two continuing education credits per biennium  
for performing free spaying and neutering  
services.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4741.16 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 4741.16.** (A) A license to practice veterinary  
medicine issued by the state veterinary medical licensing board  
pursuant to sections 4741.11 to 4741.13 of the Revised Code  
expires biennially on the first day of March in even-numbered  
years. A limited license to practice veterinary medicine issued  
by the board pursuant to those sections expires biennially on  
the first day of July. A license or limited license may be  
renewed in accordance with the standard renewal procedures  
contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code upon payment of  
the required renewal fee and fulfillment of the continuing  
education requirements contained in division (B) of this section

unless otherwise provided by law. The board shall issue a 19  
duplicate certificate to any holder upon request and upon due 20  
proof of loss of the original. 21

(B) As a condition precedent to each renewal of a license 22  
or limited license, a licensed veterinarian shall demonstrate, 23  
to the satisfaction of the board, that the licensed veterinarian 24  
has completed thirty hours of continuing education during the 25  
two years immediately preceding renewal of the licensed 26  
veterinarian's license or limited license that meets the 27  
requirements established by rule of the board as to form and 28  
content. 29

(C) (1) A licensed veterinarian may receive up to two hours 30  
of continuing education for purposes of division (B) of this 31  
section each biennium if the licensed veterinarian performs free 32  
spaying and neutering services in accordance with this division. 33  
The licensed veterinarian shall provide the services at a 34  
practice, facility, or property that is appropriately equipped 35  
and staffed to provide such services. In addition, the licensed 36  
veterinarian shall perform the services in conjunction with one 37  
of the following: 38

(a) A county humane society operating pursuant to section 39  
1717.05 of the Revised Code; 40

(b) A county dog pound operating pursuant to section 41  
955.15 of the Revised Code; 42

(c) A municipal dog pound operating under the authority of 43  
section 955.221 of the Revised Code; 44

(d) An organization that is exempt from federal income 45  
taxation under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code 46  
that is dedicated to animal protection and welfare. 47

For every one hour of free spaying and neutering services 48  
that the licensed veterinarian performs, the licensed 49  
veterinarian shall receive one-half hour of continuing education 50  
credit. 51

(2) In order to receive continuing education credits under 52  
division (C) (1) of this section, a licensed veterinarian who 53  
offers free spaying and neutering services shall provide, free 54  
of charge, follow-up services for any post-operative 55  
complications related to the surgery that arise within twenty- 56  
four hours of performing the surgery. 57

(3) The state veterinary medical licensing board shall 58  
adopt policies and procedures necessary for the administration 59  
of division (C) (2) of this section. 60

(D) The board may waive the requirement of division (B) of 61  
this section if the licensee submits an affidavit evidencing 62  
that the licensee was prevented from attending an approved 63  
educational program during a year because of the occurrence of 64  
an unusual and prolonged emergency, provided the licensee 65  
otherwise complies with such requirements as the board 66  
determines. 67

~~(D)~~(E) Educational program requirements not completed 68  
during the biennial license period, due to a waiver granted by 69  
the board under division ~~(C)~~(D) of this section, are cumulative 70  
on the requirements for the succeeding biennial license period. 71

~~(E)~~(F) Any license or limited license which is not 72  
renewed at the end of the biennium becomes an inactive license 73  
or limited license. A licensee may reactivate an inactive 74  
license or limited license upon application to the board. The 75  
board shall prescribe continuing education and other 76

requirements as it considers necessary to reactivate a license 77  
or limited license. Any license or limited license which has 78  
been inactive for more than four years expires if the licensee 79  
has not applied for reactivation of the license or limited 80  
license. Upon expiration, a license or limited license becomes 81  
void. 82

~~(F)~~(G) Division ~~(E)~~(F) of this section does not apply to 83  
any veterinarian who serves solely in a professional capacity 84  
with any federal, state, or local government agency or with any 85  
branch of the armed forces of the United States. 86

**Section 2.** That existing section 4741.16 of the Revised 87  
Code is hereby repealed. 88