

1 HB156  
2 134145-3  
3 By Representative Todd  
4 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions  
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12  
6 PFD: 02/06/2012

8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, each partner of a  
9 partnership to practice veterinary medicine is  
10 required to be a licensed Alabama veterinarian, a  
11 licensed Alabama veterinarian is prohibited from  
12 practicing veterinary medicine as an employee of a  
13 person not licensed as an Alabama veterinarian, and  
14 only a licensed Alabama veterinarian may be the  
15 owner of a veterinary practice.

16 This bill would include any veterinarian  
17 employed by a 501(c)(3) entity as being exempt from  
18 the employment and ownership restrictions, and  
19 would specify the procedure for application to the  
20 Alabama Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for a  
21 premises permit.  
22

23 A BILL  
24 TO BE ENTITLED  
25 AN ACT  
26

1           To amend Section 34-29-87, Code of Alabama 1975,  
2 relating to the practice of veterinary medicine; to exempt  
3 veterinarians employed by a 501(c)(3) entity from certain  
4 employment and ownership restrictions; and to specify the  
5 procedure for application to the Alabama Board of Veterinary  
6 Medical Examiners for a premises permit.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

8           Section 1. Section 34-29-87 of the Code of Alabama  
9 1975, is amended to read as follows:

10           "§34-29-87.

11           "(a) Whenever the practice of veterinary medicine is  
12 carried on by a partnership, all partners shall be either  
13 licensed or holders of temporary licenses to practice  
14 veterinary medicine in the State of Alabama.

15           "(b) It shall be unlawful for any licensed  
16 veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine as an employee of  
17 any person or other entity not engaged primarily in the  
18 practice of veterinary medicine or for any person that is the  
19 owner or owners of an active veterinary practice to be other  
20 than a veterinarian or veterinarians duly licensed in the  
21 State of Alabama.

22           "(c) The following shall be exempt from this  
23 section:

24           "(1) A veterinarian employed by a person treating  
25 his or her employer's animals.

26           "(2) A veterinarian employed by an official agency  
27 of the federal or state government or any subdivision thereof.

1           "(3) A veterinarian employed by any licensed  
2 research facility.

3           "(4) An heir or heirs inheriting under the terms of  
4 a will or by intestate succession for a period of two years  
5 following the death of the licensee.

6           "(5) A veterinarian employed by a 501(c) (3) entity,  
7 as defined under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue  
8 Code. A 501(c) (3) entity that desires to own and operate a  
9 veterinary medical establishment or limited service clinic  
10 shall apply to the board for a premises permit. If the board  
11 certifies that the applicant complies with the applicable laws  
12 and rules of the board, the board shall issue a premises  
13 permit. No permit shall be issued unless a licensed  
14 veterinarian is designated to undertake the professional  
15 supervision of the veterinary medical practice and the minimum  
16 standards set by rule of the board for premises where  
17 veterinary medicine is practiced. The permittee shall notify  
18 the board within 10 days after any designation of a new  
19 licensed veterinarian responsible for such duties."

20           Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
21 first day of the third month following its passage and  
22 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.