COMMITTEE REPORT

March 19, 2019

**H. 3732**

Introduced by Reps. Hewitt, Fry, West, Sandifer and Murphy

S. Printed 3/19/19--S.

Read the first time February 21, 2019.

**THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 3732) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 40‑69‑255 so as to require veterinarians to complete continuing education related to prescribing, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

THOMAS C. ALEXANDER for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Amended by the House of Representatives on February 20, 2019**

**State Expenditure**

This bill requires any veterinarian that is authorized to prescribe controlled substances to obtain a Controlled Substances Registration from the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). In addition, this bill adds to the continuing education requirements for veterinarians.

**Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.** Veterinarians are licensed by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, which is under the administration of LLR. The expenditure impact to the board is pending, contingent upon a response from LLR.

**Department of Health and Environmental Control.** All veterinarians who prescribe controlled substances are currently required to obtain a Controlled Substances Registration from DHEC. We have reached out to LLR to help determine if an additional number of veterinarians will be required to register pursuant to this bill. The expenditure impact to DHEC is pending, contingent upon information requested of LLR.

**State Revenue**

**Department of Health and Environmental Control.** DHEC charges a $125 fee for the Controlled Substances Registration. If additional veterinarians are required to register with DHEC pursuant to this bill, DHEC may experience additional revenue. We have requested information from LLR to help determine if this bill will increase the number of veterinarians required to register. The revenue impact to DHEC is pending, contingent upon information requested of LLR.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40‑69‑255 SO AS TO REQUIRE VETERINARIANS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION RELATED TO PRESCRIBING AND MONITORING CERTAIN CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 69, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40‑69‑255. As part of the biennial continuing education required by the board or pursuant to law, including Regulation 120‑6, South Carolina Code of State Regulations, a veterinarian authorized pursuant to state and federal law to prescribe controlled substances shall obtain a South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Controlled Substances Registration and complete at least two hours of continuing education every two years related to approved procedures of prescribing and monitoring controlled substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV of the schedules provided for in Sections 44‑53‑210, 44‑53‑230, and 44‑53‑250.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑