

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2021 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 2344**

BY DELEGATE J. PACK

[Introduced February 12, 2021; Referred to the  
Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources  
then Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-10-10 and §30-10-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as  
2 amended, relating to modifying the definition of “Registered Veterinary Technician” from  
3 “Technician” to “Nurse.”

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **ARTICLE 10. VETERINARIANS.**

### **§30-10-10. Requirements for a registered veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse.**

1 (a) To be eligible for a registration to practice veterinary technology under the provisions  
2 of this article, the applicant must:

3 (1) Be of good moral character;

4 (2) Have a degree in veterinary technology from an accredited school, approved by the  
5 board;

6 (3) Have passed the examinations required by the board;

7 (4) Be at least eighteen years of age;

8 (5) Be a citizen of the United States or be eligible for employment in the United States;

9 (6) Not have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;

10 (7) Not have been convicted of a felony under the laws of any jurisdiction within five years  
11 preceding the date of application for registration which conviction remains unreversed; and

12 (8) Not have been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony under the laws of any  
13 jurisdiction at any time if the offense for which the applicant was convicted related to the practice  
14 of veterinary technology or animal abuse or neglect.

15 (b) A person seeking registration under the provisions of this  
16 article shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the board and pay all applicable  
17 fees.

18 (c) A person registered to practice veterinary technology issued by the board prior to July  
19 1, 2010, shall for all purposes be considered registered under this article and may renew pursuant  
20 to the provisions of this article.

**§30-10-11. Scope of practice for registered veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse.**

1 (a) A registered veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse may do the following under general  
2 supervision:

3 (1) Administer anesthesia, including induction, intravenous sedation, and maintenance  
4 and recovery from anesthesia;

5 (2) Perform dental prophylaxis;

6 (3) Establish open airways;

7 (4) Administer resuscitative oxygen procedures;

8 (5) Administer resuscitative drugs, in the event of cardiac arrest;

9 (6) Administer immunizations that are not required by law to be administered by a licensed  
10 veterinarian;

11 (7) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients for surgery;

12 (8) Assist the veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic, medical, chemotherapeutic and  
13 surgical procedures; and

14 (9) Perform external suturing.

15 (b) A registered veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse may do the following under either general or  
16 indirect supervision:

17 (1) Perform diagnostic imaging;

18 (2) Perform intravenous catheterization;

19 (3) Administer and apply medications and treatments by oral intramuscular, intravenous  
20 and subcutaneous routes;

21 (4) Apply bandages;

22 (5) Perform cardiac and respiratory monitoring;

23 (6) Perform appropriate procedures to control bleeding;

24 (7) Apply temporary splints or immobilizing bandages;

25 (8) Perform ear flushing;

26 (9) Collect specimens; and

27 (10) Perform laboratory procedures.

28 (c) A veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse may, without supervision, use emergency treatment  
29 procedures when an animal has been placed in a life threatening condition and immediate  
30 treatment is necessary to sustain the animal's life. The registered veterinary ~~technician~~ nurse shall  
31 immediately take steps to secure the general supervision of a veterinarian.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to modify the definition of Registered Veterinarian Technicians from "Technicians" to "Nurses."

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.