

**Senator Scott D. Sandall** proposes the following substitute bill:

**EQUINE DENTISTRY AMENDMENTS**

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: David P. Hinkins**

House Sponsor: Michael K. McKell

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends the Veterinary Practice Act.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ permits certain individuals to perform teeth floating without a license if the individual holds a valid third party certification to perform teeth floating; and
- ▶ permits certain individuals to administer a sedative drug for teeth floating under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**58-28-102**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 189

**58-28-307**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 191

**58-28-502**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 61



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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **58-28-102** is amended to read:

**58-28-102. Definitions.**

In addition to the definitions in Section [58-1-102](#), as used in this chapter:

(1) "Abandonment" means to forsake entirely or to refuse to provide care and support for an animal placed in the custody of a licensed veterinarian.

(2) "Administer" means:

(a) the direct application by a person of a prescription drug or device by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other means, to the body of an animal that is a patient or is a research subject; or

(b) a veterinarian providing to the owner or caretaker of an animal a prescription drug for application by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means to the body of the animal by the owner or caretaker in accordance with the veterinarian's written directions.

(3) "Animal" means any animal other than a human.

(4) "AVMA" means American Veterinary Medical Association.

(5) "Board" means the Veterinary Board established in Section [58-28-201](#).

(6) "Client" means the patient's owner, the owner's agent, or other person responsible for the patient.

(7) "Direct supervision" means a veterinarian licensed under this chapter is present and available for face-to-face contact with the patient and person being supervised, at the time the patient is receiving veterinary care.

(8) "Extra-label use" means actual use or intended use of a drug in an animal in a manner that is not in accordance with approved labeling.

(9) "Immediate supervision" means the veterinarian licensed under this chapter is present with the individual being supervised, while the individual is performing the delegated tasks.

(10) "Indirect supervision" means a veterinarian licensed under this chapter:

(a) has given either written or verbal instructions for veterinary care of a patient to the person being supervised; and

(b) is available to the person being supervised by telephone or other electronic means

57 of communication during the period of time in which the veterinary care is given to the patient.

58 (11) "Practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry" means to:

59 (a) diagnose, prognose, or treat any disease, defect, deformity, wound, injury, or  
60 physical condition of any animal;

61 (b) administer, prescribe or dispense any drug, medicine, treatment, method, or  
62 practice, perform any operation or manipulation, apply any apparatus or appliance for the cure,  
63 relief, or correction of any animal disease, deformity, defect, wound, or injury, or otherwise  
64 practice any veterinary medicine, dentistry, or surgery on any animal;

65 (c) represent by verbal or written claim, sign, word, title, letterhead, card, or any other  
66 manner that one is a licensed veterinarian or qualified to practice veterinary medicine, surgery,  
67 or dentistry;

68 (d) hold oneself out as able to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry;

69 (e) solicit, sell, or furnish any parenterally administered animal disease cures,  
70 preventions, or treatments, with or without the necessary instruments for the administration of  
71 them, or any and all worm and other internal parasitic remedies, upon any agreement, express  
72 or implied, to administer these cures, preventions, treatments, or remedies; or

73 (f) assume or use the title or designation, "veterinary," "veterinarian," "animal doctor,"  
74 "animal surgeon," or any other title, designation, words, letters, abbreviations, sign, card, or  
75 device tending to indicate that such person is qualified to practice veterinary medicine, surgery,  
76 or dentistry.

77 (12) (a) "Teeth floating" means the removal of enamel points and the smoothing,  
78 contouring, and leveling of dental arcades and incisors of equine and other farm animals.

79 (b) "Teeth floating" does not include a dental procedure on a canine or feline.

80 [~~(12)~~] (13) "Unlawful conduct" is defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-28-501.

81 [~~(13)~~] (14) "Unlicensed assistive personnel":

82 (a) means any unlicensed person, regardless of title, to whom tasks are delegated by a  
83 veterinarian licensed under this chapter as permitted by administrative rule and in accordance  
84 with the standards of the profession; and

85 (b) includes:

86 (i) a veterinary assistant, if working under immediate supervision;

87 (ii) a veterinary technician who:

88 (A) has graduated from a program of veterinary technology accredited by the AVMA  
89 that is at least a two-year program; and

90 (B) who is working under direct supervision; and

91 (iii) a veterinary technologist who:

92 (A) has graduated from a four-year program of veterinary technology accredited by the  
93 AVMA; and

94 (B) is working under indirect supervision.

95 [~~(14)~~] (15) "Unprofessional conduct" is as defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-28-502  
96 and may be further defined by rule.

97 [~~(15)~~] (16) "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:

98 (a) a veterinarian licensed under this chapter has assumed responsibility for making  
99 clinical judgements regarding the health of an animal and the need for medical treatment of an  
100 animal, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions;

101 (b) the veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a general  
102 or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal, including knowledge of the  
103 keeping and care of the animal as a result of recent personal examination of the animal or by  
104 medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animal is housed; and

105 (c) the veterinarian has arranged for emergency coverage for follow-up evaluation in  
106 the event of adverse reaction or the failure of the treatment regimen.

107 Section 2. Section 58-28-307 is amended to read:

108 **58-28-307. Exemptions from chapter.**

109 In addition to the exemptions from licensure in Section 58-1-307 this chapter does not  
110 apply to:

111 (1) any person who practices veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry upon any  
112 animal owned by him, and the employee of that person when the practice is upon an animal  
113 owned by his employer, and incidental to his employment, except:

114 (a) this exemption does not apply to any person, or his employee, when the ownership  
115 of an animal was acquired for the purpose of circumventing this chapter; and

116 (b) this exemption does not apply to the administration, dispensing, or prescribing of a  
117 prescription drug, or nonprescription drug intended for off label use, unless the administration,  
118 dispensing, or prescribing of the drug is obtained through an existing veterinarian-patient

119 relationship;

120 (2) any person who as a student at a veterinary college approved by the board engages  
121 in the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry as part of his academic training  
122 and under the direct supervision and control of a licensed veterinarian, if that practice is during  
123 the last two years of the college course of instruction and does not exceed an 18-month  
124 duration;

125 (3) a veterinarian who is an officer or employee of the government of the United  
126 States, or the state, or its political subdivisions, and technicians under his supervision, while  
127 engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry for that government;

128 (4) any person while engaged in the vaccination of poultry, pullorum testing, typhoid  
129 testing of poultry, and related poultry disease control activity;

130 (5) any person who is engaged in bona fide and legitimate medical, dental,  
131 pharmaceutical, or other scientific research, if that practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, or  
132 dentistry is directly related to, and a necessary part of, that research;

133 (6) veterinarians licensed under the laws of another state rendering professional  
134 services in association with licensed veterinarians of this state for a period not to exceed 90  
135 days;

136 (7) registered pharmacists of this state engaged in the sale of veterinary supplies,  
137 instruments, and medicines, if the sale is at his regular place of business;

138 (8) any person in this state engaged in the sale of veterinary supplies, instruments, and  
139 medicines, except prescription drugs which must be sold in compliance with state and federal  
140 regulations, if the supplies, instruments, and medicines are sold in original packages bearing  
141 adequate identification and directions for application and administration and the sale is made in  
142 the regular course of, and at the regular place of business;

143 (9) any person rendering emergency first aid to animals in those areas where a licensed  
144 veterinarian is not available, and if suspicious reportable diseases are reported immediately to  
145 the state veterinarian;

146 (10) any person performing or teaching nonsurgical bovine artificial insemination;

147 (11) any person affiliated with an institution of higher education who teaches  
148 nonsurgical bovine embryo transfer or any technician trained by or approved by an institution  
149 of higher education who performs nonsurgical bovine embryo transfer, but only if any

150 prescription drug used in the procedure is prescribed and administered under the direction of a  
151 veterinarian licensed to practice in Utah;

152 (12) (a) upon written referral by a licensed veterinarian, the practice of animal  
153 chiropractic by a chiropractic physician licensed under Chapter 73, Chiropractic Physician  
154 Practice Act, who has completed an animal chiropractic course approved by the American  
155 Veterinary Chiropractic Association or the division;

156 (b) upon written referral by a licensed veterinarian, the practice of animal physical  
157 therapy by a physical therapist licensed under Chapter 24b, Physical Therapy Practice Act, who  
158 has completed at least 100 hours of animal physical therapy training, including quadruped  
159 anatomy and hands-on training, approved by the division;

160 (c) upon written referral by a licensed veterinarian, the practice of animal massage  
161 therapy by a massage therapist licensed under Chapter 47b, Massage Therapy Practice Act,  
162 who has completed at least 60 hours of animal massage therapy training, including quadruped  
163 anatomy and hands-on training, approved by the division; and

164 (d) upon written referral by a licensed veterinarian, the practice of acupuncture by an  
165 acupuncturist licensed under Chapter 72, Acupuncture Licensing Act, who has completed a  
166 course of study on animal acupuncture approved by the division;

167 (13) unlicensed assistive personnel performing duties appropriately delegated to the  
168 unlicensed assistive personnel in accordance with Section [58-28-502](#);

169 (14) an animal shelter employee who is:

170 (a) (i) acting under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian; and

171 (ii) performing animal euthanasia in the course and scope of employment; and

172 (b) acting under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian who is under contract with  
173 the animal shelter, administering a rabies vaccine to a shelter animal in accordance with the  
174 Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control; ~~and~~

175 (15) an individual providing appropriate training for animals; however, this exception  
176 does not include diagnosing any medical condition, or prescribing or dispensing any  
177 prescription drugs or therapeutics[-]; and

178 (16) an individual who performs teeth floating if the individual:

179 (a) has a valid certification from the International Association of Equine Dentistry, or  
180 an equivalent certification designated by division rule made in collaboration with the board, to

181 perform teeth floating; and

182 (b) administers or uses a sedative drug only if the individual is under the direct  
183 supervision of a veterinarian in accordance with Subsection [58-28-502\(2\)\(a\)\(iv\)](#).

184 Section 3. Section **58-28-502** is amended to read:

185 **58-28-502. Unprofessional conduct.**

186 (1) "Unprofessional conduct" includes, in addition to the definitions in Section  
187 [58-1-501](#):

188 (a) applying unsanitary methods or procedures in the treatment of any animal, contrary  
189 to rules adopted by the board and approved by the division;

190 (b) procuring any fee or recompense on the assurance that a manifestly incurable  
191 diseased condition of the body of an animal can be permanently cured;

192 (c) selling any biologics containing living or dead organisms or products or such  
193 organisms, except in a manner which will prevent indiscriminate use of such biologics;

194 (d) swearing falsely in any testimony or affidavit, relating to, or in the course of, the  
195 practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry;

196 (e) willful failure to report any dangerous, infectious, or contagious disease, as required  
197 by law;

198 (f) willful failure to report the results of any medical tests, as required by law, or rule  
199 adopted pursuant to law;

200 (g) violating Chapter 37, Utah Controlled Substances Act;

201 (h) delegating tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel in violation of standards of the  
202 profession and in violation of Subsection (2); and

203 (i) making any unsubstantiated claim of superiority in training or skill as a veterinarian  
204 in the performance of professional services.

205 (2) (a) "Unprofessional conduct" does not include the following:

206 (i) delegating to a veterinary technologist, while under the indirect supervision of a  
207 veterinarian licensed under this chapter, patient care and treatment that requires a technical  
208 understanding of veterinary medicine if written or oral instructions are provided to the  
209 technologist by the veterinarian;

210 (ii) delegating to a veterinary technician, while under the direct supervision of a  
211 veterinarian licensed under this chapter, patient care and treatment that requires a technical

212 understanding of veterinary medicine if written or oral instructions are provided to the  
213 technician by the veterinarian; [~~and~~]

214 (iii) delegating to a veterinary assistant, under the immediate supervision of a licensed  
215 veterinarian, tasks that are consistent with the standards and ethics of the profession[~~;~~]; and

216 (iv) delegating to an individual described in Subsection [58-28-307](#)(16), under the direct  
217 supervision of a licensed veterinarian, the administration of a sedative drug for teeth floating.

218 (b) The delegation of tasks permitted under Subsection (2)(a) does not include:

219 (i) diagnosing;

220 (ii) prognosing;

221 (iii) surgery; or

222 (iv) prescribing drugs, medicines, or appliances.