

SB 316: A Bill to Amend the Veterinary Practice Act in Indiana

Senate Bill 316 has been introduced into the Indiana State Senate by Senator Dillon. If this bill becomes law, it will affect all veterinarians and veterinary technicians, and the patients and clients they serve in the state of Indiana.

The SB 316 was in part developed by a task force of the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association that met from August of 2006 until August of 2007. The taskforce consisted of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary students, the executive director for the IVMA and a legislative consultant.

The role of the task force was to identify possible limitations of the Indiana Veterinary Practice Act. The task force reviewed the current Indiana Practice Act, model practice acts, and the practice acts of all other states. It also addressed known current veterinary related issues that affect the animal and client population, members of the veterinary health care team and general public in Indiana.

Upon completion of their charge, a draft bill was developed and delivered to the IVMA Legislative Committee and Executive Board for critique, possible revision and approval.

The proposed bill was then carried to Senator Dillon, and after his review and revision, he filed and introduced the bill on Thursday, January 10, 2008. (Please see *How a Bill Becomes a Law in Indiana* at: <http://www.in.gov/idoa/files/BillintoLaw.pdf>)

To view and follow the proposed bill and voice your opinion:

1. Go to the following web site and entering 316 in the box directly below the words Go To Bill:

Legislative Bill Information: <http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch/billinfo>

2. You can voice your opinions on the bill in multiple ways: a/b. with your local legislator, c. the legislative committee reviewing the bill, d. ultimately with the governor, and e. the IVMA

a. To find and contact your local legislator, go to:

Who is your legislator? <http://www.in.gov/apps/sos/legislator/search/>

How to contact your legislature? <http://www.in.gov/legislative/contact/index.html>

b. To find the current legislative committee taking action on the bill, see:

Current Status on the Bill Information page, reached after you entered 316 in Step #1 (above).

c. To contact the committee go to:

Standing Committees at:

<http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch/billinfo?request=getCommitteeList> and search for the committee listed under Current Status on the Bill Information page.

d. To contact the *governor*, go to: <http://www.in.gov/gov/2310.htm>

e. The *Indiana Veterinary Medical Association* can also be contacted to address concerns and questions: Ms. Lisa Perius, Executive Director, 201 S. Capitol Avenue, Suite 405, Indianapolis, IN 46225, Phone: 317-974-0888, Fax: 317-974-0985, E-mail: lisa@invma.org.