

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 1032
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 1, 2011; March 16, 2011, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture and Rural
1-4 Affairs; April 26, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0;
1-6 April 26, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1032 By: Hegar

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the licensure and regulation of equine dental
1-11 providers; providing penalties.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 801.002, Occupations Code, is amended by
1-14 adding Subdivisions (3-a) and (4-a) to read as follows:

1-15 (3-a) "Equine dentistry" means any diagnosis,
1-16 treatment, or surgical procedure performed on the head or oral
1-17 cavity of an equine animal. The term includes:

1-18 (A) any procedure that invades the tissues of the
1-19 oral cavity, including a procedure to:

1-20 (i) remove sharp enamel projections;

1-21 (ii) treat malocclusions of the teeth;

1-22 (iii) reshape teeth; and

1-23 (iv) extract one or more teeth;

1-24 (B) the treatment or extraction of damaged or
1-25 diseased teeth;

1-26 (C) the treatment of diseased teeth through
1-27 restoration and endodontic procedures;

1-28 (D) periodontal treatments, including:

1-29 (i) the removal of calculus, soft deposits,
1-30 plaque, and stains above the gum line; and

1-31 (ii) the smoothing, filing, and polishing
1-32 of tooth surfaces; and

1-33 (E) dental radiography.

1-34 (4-a) "Licensed equine dental provider" means a person
1-35 who holds a license to practice equine dentistry issued under this
1-36 chapter.

1-37 SECTION 2. Section 801.151, Occupations Code, is amended by
1-38 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (e) and (f) to read
1-39 as follows:

1-40 (c) The board shall adopt rules to:

1-41 (1) protect the public; ~~and~~

1-42 (2) ensure that alternate therapies, including
1-43 ultrasound diagnosis and therapy, magnetic field therapy, holistic
1-44 medicine, homeopathy, chiropractic treatment, acupuncture, and
1-45 laser therapy, are performed only by a veterinarian or under the
1-46 supervision of a veterinarian; and

1-47 (3) ensure that equine dentistry is performed only by
1-48 a veterinarian who is active and in good standing or by a licensed
1-49 equine dental provider who is active and in good standing under the
1-50 appropriate level of supervision of a veterinarian who is active
1-51 and in good standing and who has established a
1-52 veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the owner or other
1-53 caretaker or an animal and the animal in accordance with Section
1-54 801.351.

1-55 (e) The board shall adopt rules to implement a jurisprudence
1-56 examination for licensed equine dental providers, including rules
1-57 relating to the development and administration of the examination,
1-58 examination fees, guidelines for reexamination, examination
1-59 grading, and provision of notice of examination results.

1-60 (f) The board may not adopt rules that unreasonably restrict
1-61 the selection by the owner or other caretaker of an animal of a
1-62 licensed equine dental provider who is in good standing to provide
1-63 equine dental services.

SECTION 3. Subsections (b) and (d), Section 801.154, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The veterinarian license renewal fee set by the board under this chapter is the amount set by the board under Subsection (a) and an additional fee of \$200.

(d) The additional fee under Subsection (b) does not apply to a veterinarian [~~license holder~~] who is:

(1) exempt from paying the renewal fee under Section 801.304; or

(2) placed on inactive status as provided by Section 801.306.

SECTION 4. Section 801.156, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.156. REGISTRY. (a) The board shall maintain a record of each license holder's [~~veterinarian's~~]:

(1) name;

(2) residence address; and

(3) business address.

(b) A license holder [~~veterinarian~~] shall notify the board of a change of business address or employer not later than the 60th day after the date the change takes effect.

SECTION 5. Subsection (b), Section 801.203, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board shall list with its regular telephone number any toll-free telephone number established under other state law for presenting a complaint about a license holder [~~veterinarian~~].

SECTION 6. Subsection (b), Section 801.2056, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A complaint delegated under this section shall be referred for informal proceedings under Section 801.408 if:

(1) the committee determines that the complaint should not be dismissed or settled;

(2) the committee is unable to reach an agreed settlement; or

(3) the license holder [~~veterinarian~~] who is the subject of the complaint requests that the complaint be referred for informal proceedings.

SECTION 7. Sections 801.251 and 801.252, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.251. LICENSE REQUIRED FOR PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE. Except as provided by Section 801.004, a person may not practice, or offer or attempt to practice, veterinary medicine unless the person holds a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter.

Sec. 801.252. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSE TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE. The board shall issue a license to practice veterinary medicine to a person who is qualified to be licensed to practice veterinary medicine under this chapter. A person is qualified to be licensed to practice veterinary medicine if:

(1) the person has attained the age of majority;

(2) the person is a graduate of a board-approved school or college of veterinary medicine;

(3) the person successfully completes the licensing examination for veterinarians conducted by the board; and

(4) the board does not refuse to issue a license to the person under Section 801.401.

SECTION 8. The heading to Section 801.253, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.253. LICENSING EXAMINATIONS FOR VETERINARIANS.

SECTION 9. Subsection (a), Section 801.253, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board shall hold a regular meeting at least twice each year to conduct licensing examinations for veterinarians as provided by board rule. The board shall conduct the examination at a time and place the board determines is convenient for applicants.

SECTION 10. The heading to Section 801.256, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.256. SPECIAL LICENSE TO PRACTICE VETERINARY

3-1 MEDICINE.

3-2 SECTION 11. Subsection (a), Section 801.256, Occupations
3-3 Code, is amended to read as follows:

3-4 (a) The board may issue a special license to practice
3-5 veterinary medicine to an applicant who is:

3-6 (1) a member of the faculty or staff of a
3-7 board-approved veterinary program at an institution of higher
3-8 education;

3-9 (2) a veterinarian employee of the Texas Animal Health
3-10 Commission;

3-11 (3) a veterinarian employee of the Texas Veterinary
3-12 Medical Diagnostic Laboratory; or

3-13 (4) a person licensed to practice veterinary medicine
3-14 in another jurisdiction, if the board determines that the person's
3-15 specialty practice is unrepresented or underrepresented in this
3-16 state.

3-17 SECTION 12. The heading to Section 801.257, Occupations
3-18 Code, is amended to read as follows:

3-19 Sec. 801.257. PROVISIONAL LICENSE TO PRACTICE VETERINARY
3-20 MEDICINE.

3-21 SECTION 13. Subsection (a), Section 801.257, Occupations
3-22 Code, is amended to read as follows:

3-23 (a) The board may grant a provisional license to practice
3-24 veterinary medicine to an applicant who presents proof that the
3-25 applicant:

3-26 (1) is licensed in good standing as a veterinarian in
3-27 another state that:

3-28 (A) has licensing requirements substantially
3-29 equivalent to the requirements of this chapter; and

3-30 (B) maintains professional standards the board
3-31 considers equivalent to the professional standards of this chapter;
3-32 and

3-33 (2) has passed a national or other examination
3-34 recognized by the board relating to veterinary medicine.

3-35 SECTION 14. Section 801.258, Occupations Code, is amended
3-36 to read as follows:

3-37 Sec. 801.258. TEMPORARY LICENSE TO PRACTICE VETERINARY
3-38 MEDICINE. The board by rule may provide for the issuance of a
3-39 temporary license to practice veterinary medicine.

3-40 SECTION 15. Subchapter F, Chapter 801, Occupations Code, is
3-41 amended by adding Sections 801.259, 801.260, 801.261, 801.262,
3-42 801.263, and 801.264 to read as follows:

3-43 Sec. 801.259. LICENSED EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER
3-44 DESIGNATIONS. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), a person may not
3-45 represent to the public that the person is authorized to perform
3-46 equine dentistry or use the titles "dentist," "certified equine
3-47 dental provider," "equine dental provider," "CEDP," or "EDP" unless
3-48 the person is licensed to practice equine dentistry under this
3-49 chapter.

3-50 (b) Only a licensed equine dental provider who is certified
3-51 in accordance with Section 801.261(a)(3) may use the title
3-52 "certified equine dental provider" or the designation "CEDP." Only
3-53 a licensed equine dental provider who is licensed before September
3-54 1, 2013, and who is not certified in accordance with Section
3-55 801.261(a)(3) may use the title "equine dental provider" or the
3-56 designation "EDP."

3-57 Sec. 801.260. LICENSE REQUIRED FOR EQUINE DENTISTRY. A
3-58 person may not perform equine dentistry or offer or attempt to act
3-59 as an equine dental provider unless the person is:

3-60 (1) a veterinarian who is active and in good standing;
3-61 or

3-62 (2) a licensed equine dental provider who is active
3-63 and in good standing performing under the supervision of a
3-64 veterinarian who is active and in good standing.

3-65 Sec. 801.261. LICENSED EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER:
3-66 APPLICATION, QUALIFICATIONS, AND ISSUANCE. (a) The board shall
3-67 issue an equine dental provider license to a person who is qualified
3-68 under this section. A person is qualified to be licensed as an
3-69 equine dental provider if the person:

(1) passes a jurisprudence examination conducted by the board in accordance with Section 801.264;

(2) is not disqualified under this chapter or board rule; and

(3) is certified by the International Association of Equine Dentistry or another board-approved certification entity or organization.

(b) An applicant for an equine dental provider license must submit to the board:

(1) an application on the form prescribed by the board;

(2) information to enable the board to conduct a criminal background check as required by the board; and

(3) any other information required by the board.

Sec. 801.262. SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF LICENSED EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER. (a) A licensed equine dental provider may not perform equine dentistry unless the provider is active and in good standing and performs equine dentistry under the general supervision of a veterinarian who is active and in good standing.

(b) A licensed equine dental provider may perform only the following equine dental procedures:

(1) removing sharp enamel points;

(2) removing small dental overgrowths;

(3) rostral profiling of the first cheek teeth;

(4) reducing incisors;

(5) extracting loose, deciduous teeth;

(6) removing supragingival calculus;

(7) extracting loose, mobile, or diseased teeth or dental fragments with minimal periodontal attachments by hand and without the use of an elevator; and

(8) removing erupted, non-displaced wolf teeth.

(c) Subsection (b) may not be construed to prohibit an employee of a veterinarian who is not a licensed equine dental provider from performing the equine dental procedures described in Subsection (b) if the employee is under the direct supervision of a veterinarian.

(d) A copy of the dental chart of an equine animal is to be left with the person who authorizes an equine dental procedure and is to be made available to the supervising veterinarian upon request.

Sec. 801.263. LICENSED EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITY. A licensed equine dental provider shall be held to the same standard of care as a veterinarian when the provider performs the equine dental procedures described in Section 801.262(b).

Sec. 801.264. JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION. The board shall develop and administer a jurisprudence examination for licensed equine dental providers to determine an applicant's knowledge of this chapter, board rules, and any other applicable laws of this state affecting the applicant's equine dentistry practice.

SECTION 16. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 801.303, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) A person whose license has been expired for 90 days or less may renew the license by paying to the board a renewal fee that is equal to the sum of 1-1/2 times the renewal fee set by the board under Section 801.154(a) and the additional fee required by Section 801.154(b), if applicable.

(c) A person whose license has been expired for more than 90 days but less than one year may renew the license by paying to the board a renewal fee that is equal to the sum of two times the renewal fee set by the board under Section 801.154(a) and the additional fee required by Section 801.154(b), if applicable.

SECTION 17. Section 801.304, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.304. FEE EXEMPTION. A veterinarian [~~license holder~~] is exempt from the fee requirements imposed under Section 801.303 if the veterinarian [~~license holder~~]:

(1) is on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States and does not engage in private or civilian practice;

or

(2) is permanently and totally retired.

SECTION 18. Subsection (a), Section 801.305, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person who was licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state, moved to another state, and is currently licensed in good standing and has been in practice in the other state for the two years preceding the date of application may obtain a new license to practice veterinary medicine without reexamination.

SECTION 19. Section 801.306, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.306. INACTIVE STATUS. The board by rule may provide for the placement of a license holder [~~veterinarian~~] on inactive status. The rules adopted under this section must include a limit on the time a license holder [~~veterinarian~~] may remain on inactive status.

SECTION 20. Subsections (a) and (b), Section 801.307, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The board by rule shall establish a minimum number of hours of continuing education required to renew a license to practice veterinary medicine. The board shall require eight hours of continuing education annually to renew an equine dental provider license.

(b) The board may:

(1) establish general categories of continuing education that meet the needs of license holders [~~veterinarians~~]; and

(2) require a license holder [~~veterinarian~~] to successfully complete continuing education courses.

SECTION 21. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 801.352, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) A veterinarian may not:

(1) allow a person who does not hold a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter to interfere with or intervene in the veterinarian's practice of veterinary medicine; or

(2) submit to interference or intervention by a person who does not hold a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter.

(c) A veterinarian shall avoid a relationship that may result in interference with or intervention in the veterinarian's practice of veterinary medicine by a person who does not hold a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter.

SECTION 22. Section 801.3541, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.3541. LOCATION OF VETERINARY PRACTICE. The premises on which a veterinary practice is located may be owned by a person or other legal entity that does not hold a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter.

SECTION 23. Sections 801.402, 801.403, and 801.404, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.402. GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION. A person is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 if the person:

(1) presents to the board dishonest or fraudulent evidence of the person's qualifications;

(2) commits fraud or deception in the examination process or to obtain a license;

(3) is chronically or habitually intoxicated, chemically dependent, or addicted to drugs;

(4) engages in dishonest or illegal practices in, or connected with, the practice of veterinary medicine or the practice of equine dentistry;

(5) is convicted of a felony under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States;

(6) engages in practices or conduct that violates the board's rules of professional conduct;

(7) permits another to use the person's license to

practice veterinary medicine or to practice equine dentistry in this state;

(8) fraudulently issues a health certificate, vaccination certificate, test chart, or other form used in the practice of veterinary medicine or the practice of equine dentistry that relates to the presence or absence of animal disease;

(9) issues a false certificate relating to the sale for human consumption of inedible animal products;

(10) commits fraud in connection with the application or reporting of a test of animal disease;

(11) pays or receives a kickback, rebate, bonus, or other remuneration for treating an animal or for referring a client to another provider of veterinary or equine dental services or goods;

(12) performs or prescribes unnecessary or unauthorized treatment;

(13) orders a prescription drug or controlled substance for the treatment of an animal without first establishing a veterinarian-client-patient relationship;

(14) refuses to admit a board representative to inspect the person's client and patient records and business premises during regular business hours;

(15) fails to keep the person's equipment and business premises in a sanitary condition;

(16) commits gross malpractice or a pattern of acts that indicate consistent malpractice, negligence, or incompetence in the practice of veterinary medicine or the practice of equine dentistry; or

(17) is subject to disciplinary action in another jurisdiction, including the suspension, probation, or revocation of a license to practice veterinary medicine or to practice equine dentistry issued by another jurisdiction.

Sec. 801.403. FAILURE TO REPORT DISEASE. The board may suspend or revoke a license to practice veterinary medicine, place a veterinarian [~~license holder~~] on probation, or reprimand a veterinarian [~~license holder~~] if the veterinarian [~~license holder~~] knowingly fails to report a disease to the Texas Animal Health Commission as required by Section 161.101, Agriculture Code.

Sec. 801.404. FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RECORDS. The board may suspend or revoke a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter or place on probation a veterinarian [~~license holder~~] if the veterinarian [~~license holder~~] fails to maintain records as required by Section 801.359.

SECTION 24. Subsection (a), Section 801.502, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board, through the attorney general or a district or county attorney, may bring an action for an injunction, or a proceeding incident to an injunction, to:

(1) enforce this chapter; or

(2) enjoin a person, including a corporation, organization, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, or other legal entity, from practicing veterinary medicine or equine dentistry in violation of this chapter.

SECTION 25. Subsections (a) and (b), Section 801.506, Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation may not engage in veterinary medicine unless the owner, each partner, or each shareholder, as appropriate, holds a license to practice veterinary medicine issued under this chapter.

(b) A corporation, organization, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, or other legal entity not owned exclusively by one or more persons licensed to practice veterinary medicine under this chapter may not engage in veterinary medicine.

SECTION 26. Subsection (a), Section 801.508, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If it appears to the board that a person is engaging in an act or practice that constitutes the practice of veterinary medicine without a license or the practice of equine dentistry without a license under this chapter, the board, after notice and

7-1 opportunity for a hearing, may issue a cease and desist order
 7-2 prohibiting the person from engaging in the activity.

7-3 SECTION 27. Chapter 801, Occupations Code, is amended by
 7-4 adding Subchapter L to read as follows:

7-5 SUBCHAPTER L. EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7-6 Sec. 801.551. EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

7-7 (a) The equine dental provider advisory committee is an informal
 7-8 advisory committee to the board and is not subject to Chapter 2110,
 7-9 Government Code.

7-10 (b) The advisory committee does not have any independent
 7-11 rulemaking authority but shall advise and assist the board in
 7-12 adopting rules relating to licensed equine dental providers.

7-13 (c) The board shall consult the advisory committee
 7-14 regarding matters relating to a disciplinary action that involves a
 7-15 licensed equine dental provider.

7-16 Sec. 801.552. APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The
 7-17 equine dental provider advisory committee is composed of three
 7-18 members appointed by the presiding officer of the board as follows:

7-19 (1) two members who are licensed equine dental
 7-20 providers, have resided in and engaged in the practice of smoothing
 7-21 or filing teeth by floating in this state for the five years
 7-22 immediately preceding the date of appointment, and are of good
 7-23 repute; and

7-24 (2) one veterinarian member who is active and in good
 7-25 standing and who supervises a licensed equine dental provider.

7-26 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(1), the advisory
 7-27 committee members appointed under Subsection (a)(1) are not
 7-28 required to hold a license to practice equine dentistry issued
 7-29 under this chapter until September 1, 2012. This subsection
 7-30 expires September 1, 2013.

7-31 (c) Appointments to the advisory committee shall be made
 7-32 without regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age,
 7-33 or national origin of the appointees.

7-34 Sec. 801.553. TERMS; VACANCY. (a) Members of the equine
 7-35 dental provider advisory committee are appointed for staggered
 7-36 six-year terms. The terms of the members expire on February 1 of
 7-37 each odd-numbered year.

7-38 (b) If a vacancy occurs during a member's term, the
 7-39 presiding officer of the board shall appoint a new member to fill
 7-40 the unexpired term.

7-41 (c) An advisory committee member may not serve more than two
 7-42 consecutive full terms.

7-43 Sec. 801.554. GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL. (a) It is a ground for
 7-44 removal from the equine dental provider advisory committee that a
 7-45 member:

7-46 (1) does not have at the time of appointment the
 7-47 qualifications required by Section 801.552;

7-48 (2) does not maintain during service on the advisory
 7-49 committee the qualifications required by Section 801.552; and

7-50 (3) cannot, because of illness or disability,
 7-51 discharge the member's duties for a substantial part of the member's
 7-52 term.

7-53 (b) The validity of an action of the advisory committee is
 7-54 not affected by the fact that it is taken when a ground for removal
 7-55 of an advisory committee member exists.

7-56 Sec. 801.555. OFFICERS. The presiding officer of the board
 7-57 shall designate biennially an equine dental provider advisory
 7-58 committee member as the presiding officer of the advisory committee
 7-59 to serve in that capacity at the will of the presiding officer of
 7-60 the board.

7-61 Sec. 801.556. REIMBURSEMENT; COMPENSATION. An equine
 7-62 dental provider advisory committee member is not entitled to
 7-63 reimbursement for travel expenses or compensation.

7-64 Sec. 801.557. MEETINGS. (a) The equine dental provider
 7-65 advisory committee shall meet at the call of the presiding officer
 7-66 of the board.

7-67 (b) A meeting may be held by telephone conference call.

7-68 SECTION 28. Subchapter F, Chapter 411, Government Code, is
 7-69 amended by adding Section 411.0995 to read as follows:

8-1 Sec. 411.0995. ACCESS TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD
 8-2 INFORMATION: STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS. The
 8-3 State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is entitled to obtain
 8-4 from the department criminal history record information maintained
 8-5 by the department that relates to a person who is:

8-6 (1) an applicant for a license to practice equine
 8-7 dentistry under Chapter 801, Occupations Code; or

8-8 (2) the holder of a license under that chapter.

8-9 SECTION 29. (a) Not later than October 1, 2011, the
 8-10 presiding officer of the State Board of Veterinary Medical
 8-11 Examiners shall appoint the initial members of the equine dental
 8-12 provider advisory committee established under Subchapter L,
 8-13 Chapter 801, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, with the term
 8-14 of one member expiring February 1, 2013, the term of one member
 8-15 expiring February 1, 2015, and the term of one member expiring
 8-16 February 1, 2017.

8-17 (b) Not later than June 1, 2012, the State Board of
 8-18 Veterinary Medical Examiners, in consultation with the equine
 8-19 dental provider advisory committee established under Subchapter L,
 8-20 Chapter 801, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, shall adopt the
 8-21 rules, procedures, and jurisprudence examination required to
 8-22 implement the licensure of equine dental providers under Chapter
 8-23 801, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

8-24 (c) Notwithstanding Section 801.260, Occupations Code, as
 8-25 added by this Act, a person employed as an equine dental provider is
 8-26 not required to hold a license under Chapter 801, Occupations Code,
 8-27 and is not subject to the imposition of a penalty for not holding a
 8-28 license under that chapter before September 1, 2012.

8-29 SECTION 30. (a) Before September 1, 2013, the State Board
 8-30 of Veterinary Medical Examiners shall issue a provisional equine
 8-31 dental provider license required by Section 801.260, Occupations
 8-32 Code, as added by this Act, to a person who is not certified by the
 8-33 International Association of Equine Dentistry or another
 8-34 board-approved entity or organization if the person:

8-35 (1) presents proof of graduation from or completion of
 8-36 280 hours of course work at a dental school; and

8-37 (2) submits, with the application and other
 8-38 information required under Subsection (b), Section 801.261,
 8-39 Occupations Code, as added by this Act:

8-40 (A) three notarized affidavits in which equine
 8-41 owners or industry professionals who are residents of this state
 8-42 state that they know the person and that the person is known in the
 8-43 community to be competent in the practice of smoothing or filing
 8-44 teeth by floating; and

8-45 (B) three letters of recommendation from
 8-46 veterinarians licensed to practice in this state.

8-47 (b) A license issued under this section may be renewed in
 8-48 the same manner as a license issued to a person under Section
 8-49 801.261, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

8-50 (c) This section expires September 1, 2013.

8-51 SECTION 31. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

8-52 * * * * *