### VETERINARY PROFESSION ACT, B.E. 2545 (2002)

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BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX; Given on the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of April B.E. 2545; Being the 57<sup>th</sup> Year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that: Whereas it is expedient to have a law on veterinary profession;

This Act contains certain provisions in relation to the restriction of rights and liberties of person, in respect of which section 29, in conjunction with section 31, section 35, section 48 and section 50 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand so permit by virtue of law:

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the National Assembly, as follows:

Section 1. This Act is called the "Veterinary Profession Act, B.E. 2545 (2002)".

**Section 2.** This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

**Section 3.** The Animal Protection and Therapy Act, B.E. 2505 shall be repealed.

Section 4. In this Act:

"veterinary profession" means a profession which is related to any action on animal bodies in order to examine, diagnose, prevent, treat or eliminate animal diseases and

<sup>\*</sup> Translated by Mr. Watthana Suksiripakonchai, and reviewed by Ms. Siriphan Ponrob under contract for the Office of the Council of State of Thailand's Law for ASEAN project. – Initial Version – pending review and approval by the Office of the Council of State.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Published in the Government Gazette, Vol. 119, Part 36a, dated 23rd April B.E. 2545 (2002).

such action is acted upon animal bodies directly via injection or insertion of any material into the animal bodies for decoration or treatment, castration or breeding with a technique which prevents sexual reproductive diseases and it shall include contagious diseases between animals and humans, food protection and food contamination which comes from animal origins;

"animal" means a living being which is neither a plant nor a human being;

"disease" means illness, pain or abnormality of animal bodies or minds, and shall include symptoms from such conditions;

"license" means a license to practice veterinary profession from the Veterinary Council:

"veterinary practitioner" means a practitioner who has registered and holds a license to practice the veterinary profession from the Veterinary Council;

"member" means a member of Veterinary Council;

"Board" means the Board of the Veterinary Council

"Secretary-General" means the Secretary-General of the Veterinary Council;

"Deputy Secretary-General" means the Deputy Secretary-General of the Veterinary Council;

"competent official" means a person appointed by the Minister for the execution of this Act;

"Minister" means the Minister having charge and control of the execution of this Act.

**Section 5.** In the case where any provision in any law refers to "treatment of animals" or "animal treatment practitioner" under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 (1962), it shall mean "veterinary profession" or "veterinary practitioner", as the case may be, under this Act.

**Section 6.** The Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act and shall have the power to appoint competent officials and issue Ministerial Regulations prescribing fees not exceeding the rates of fees annexed to this Act as well as other Ministerial Regulations and Rules for the execution of this Act.

Such Ministerial Regulations and Rules shall come into force upon their publication in the Government Gazette.

### CHAPTER I

### The Veterinary Council

**Section 7.** There shall be the Veterinary Council as a legal entity whose objectives and authority are stipulated in this Act.

Section 8. The Veterinary Council shall have the objectives as follows:

- (1) to control the veterinary profession;
- (2) to control conduct of a veterinary practitioner to be in accordance with the code of conduct for veterinary profession;
  - (3) to promote education, research and veterinary profession;
  - (4) to promote unity and honor of members;
- (5) to assist, advise, disseminate information and provide education to people and other organizations relating to veterinary profession;
- (6) to provide advice or recommendations to the government concerning policies and problems on veterinary profession;
  - (7) to be a representative of veterinary profession in Thailand;
  - (8) to uphold fairness and promote welfare to the members;
  - (9) to carry out other activities as stipulated in the Ministerial Regulations.

Section 9. The Veterinary Council shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) to register and issue licenses to applicants for a veterinary practitioner;
- (2) to give orders under section 45;
- (3) to accredit academic degrees, certificates or diplomas in the field of veterinary of institutions for the benefits of member application;
- (4) to accredit curriculums for training programs on specialization of veterinary profession of institutions;
  - (5) to accredit academic standing of the training institutions in (4);
- (6) to issue a letter of approval or certification of knowledge and specialization in the veterinary profession and issue other letters certifying qualifications in the field veterinary profession;

(7) to carry out activities in accordance with the objectives of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 10.** The Veterinary Council may obtain incomes from the following sources:

- (1) subsidy from the State budget;
- (2) member registration fee, maintenance fee and other fees under this Act;
- (3) profits from asset management and activities under the objectives specified in section 8:
  - (4) money and properties donated to the Veterinary Council;
  - (5) interests on money and properties in (1) (2) (3) and (4).

**Section 11.** The Minister shall hold the position of Honorary President of the Veterinary Council and have charge as stipulated in this Act.

**Section 12.** There shall be the Office of Veterinary Council responsible for all administrative duties for the Board and the Veterinary Council. There may be a branch office as necessary, providing that it shall be stipulated by the Board.

CHAPTER II Membership

**Section 13.** An applicant for membership of the Veterinary Council shall have qualifications and not be under any of prohibition as follows:

- (1) being not less than twenty years of age;
- (2) having knowledge in veterinary profession by obtaining an academic degree, a certificate or diploma in the field of veterinary from an academic institute accredited by the Veterinary Council or having knowledge in veterinary profession by obtaining a degree in other fields which is not a Bachelor of Veterinary Science;
- (3) not being a person of disgraceful conduct which, in the opinion of the Board, will bring dishonor to the profession;

- (4) not having been sentenced by a final judgment of the Court to a term of imprisonment in the case which, in the opinion of the Board, will bring dishonor to the profession;
- (5) not being an incompetent, quasi-incompetent or having any disease stipulated in the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

#### **Section 14.** Members shall have the following rights and duties:

- (1) to apply for a registration and license for a veterinary practitioner, to request a letter of approval or certification of knowledge and specialization in any field of veterinary profession or to request a letter certifying other academic standings in the veterinary profession in accordance with the Rules of the Veterinary Council;
- (2) to give opinion or to ask questions in writing to the Board for consideration regarding activities of the Veterinary Council; and in the case where fifty or more members submit a request to the Board to consider any operation of the Veterinary Council, the Board shall consider and notify the result of its consideration to the requesters within ninety days from the date of submission;
  - (3) to elect or to be elected as a member of the Board;
- (4) to uphold the honor of the profession and to act in accordance with this Act.

#### **Section 15.** The membership of a member shall terminate upon:

- (1) death;
- (2) resignation;
- (3) being disqualified or being under any of the prohibitions under section 13(1) (2) or (5);
- (4) being a person whose membership is withdrawn by the resolution of the Board as the Board considers that such person brings dishonor to the profession under section 13(3) or (4);
- (5) failing to pay membership fee, maintenance fee or other fees without a reasonable cause in accordance with rules, procedures and conditions specified by the Rules of Veterinary Council.

# CHAPTER III Board of Veterinary Council

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**Section 16.** There shall be a Board of the Veterinary Council consisting of:

(1) Director of Department of Livestock Development, Deans of Faculties of Veterinary Science in State higher education institutions and private higher education institutions established under the law on private higher education institutions, President of the Veterinary Practitioner Association and President of Thai Veterinary Medical Association as *ex officio* members;

(2) members comprising of one representative from the Ministry of Defense, one representative from the Ministry of Interior, one representative from the Ministry of Public Health, one representative from the Department of Fisheries, one representative from the Department of Livestock Development and one representative from the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration:

(3) members elected by members of the Council in the total numbers of those in (1) and (2) add up together in each election.

**Section 17**. The Board may appoint qualified persons as advisors and shall have power to remove such advisors.

The advisor shall be in office for the same term as a member of the Board under section 14 (4).

**Section 18.** The Board shall, within thirty days from the date of election under section 16 (3), select its members to be the President, the first Vice President, and the second Vice President of the Veterinary Council, one person for each position.

President of the Veterinary Council shall appoint members of the Board to be in each position of Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Public Relations Officer, and Treasurer, and may select members of the Board to hold other positions as necessary and shall have power to remove such persons from office with the approval of the Board.

The term of office for President, the first Vice President, and the second Vice President of the Veterinary Council shall be the same as members of the Board under section 16(3).

When President of the Veterinary Council vacates the office, the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Public Relations Officer, Treasurer and other positions under paragraph two, shall also vacate their offices.

**Section 19.** An election of a member of the Board under section 16(3), an appointment of an advisor under section 17, a selection of a member of the Board to be in different positions under section 18 and selection of member of the Bard under section 23 shall be in accordance with Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 20.** A member of the Board under section 16(2) and (3) shall have qualifications and not be under any of prohibition as follows:

- (1) being a veterinary practitioner;
- (2) not being a person whose license had been suspended or revoked under this Act or under the law on control of treatments of animals;
  - (3) not being a bankrupt.

**Section 21.** Members of the Board under section 16(3) shall hold office for a term of three years and may be re-elected but not more than two consecutive terms.

The member whose term of office has expired shall be in office to continue to perform his or her duties until a new member is elected. Provided that the Board shall hold an election under section 16(3) within ninety days from the date of expiration under paragraph one.

**Section 22.** In addition to vacating office on the expiration of term, a member of the Board under section 16(3) vacates office upon:

- (1) death;
- (2) resignation;
- (3) expiration of membership under section 15;
- (4) lack of qualifications or being under prohibitions under section 20.

**Section 23.** In the case where a member of the Board under section 16(3) vacates the office before the expiration of the term, the Board shall select a member who is qualified and not under prohibitions under section 20 to be a member of the Board within thirty days from the date of vacancy.

In the case where members of the Board under paragraph one vacates for more than one half of the elected members, the Board shall hold an election to replace such members of the Board within ninety days from the day that such members are no longer in office.

In the case where the remaining term of office of a member under section 16(3) is less than ninety days, the Board may or may not select a person or hold an election to replace such members.

The new member shall be in office for the unexpired term of office of the member he or she replaces.

#### **Section 24.** The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) to manage and execute operations of the Veterinary Council in accordance with the objectives and authority stipulated in section 8 and section 9;
- (2) to appoint a sub-committee on ethics, a sub-committee on investigation and other sub-committees to execute other tasks or consider matters within the scope of objectives and powers of the Veterinary Council;
  - (3) to establish a branch office for Veterinary Council;
  - (4) to issue Rules of the Veterinary Council on:
    - (a) membership;
    - (b) specification of diseases under section 11 (5);
- (c) rates of membership fee, maintenance fee and other fees apart from the rates of fee annexed to this Act;
- (d)election of members of the Board under section 16 (3), appointment of advisors and selection of members of the Board to positions under section 18;
  - (e) meeting of the Board, sub-committees, advisory panel and members;
  - (f) powers and duties of advisors under section 17;
  - (g) powers and duties of other positions under section 18 paragraph two;
  - (h)knowledge tests of veterinary practitioners under section 33;
  - (i) qualifications of veterinary practitioners under section 34;
- (j) forms and types of licenses, rule, procedures and conditions in registration, issuance of licenses, period of licenses, renewal of licenses, issuance of letters of approval or certification of knowledge or skills in different branches of veterinary profession,

letters certifying other qualifications in veterinary profession, issuance of a license substitute, approval letters or certificates or letters certifying other qualifications under section 31;

- (k) establishment, operation and abolishment of training institutions in different branches of veterinary profession;
  - (l) restrictions and conditions in veterinary profession under section 35;
  - (m) code of conduct of the veterinary profession under section 36;
  - (n) rules on suspension and revocation of licenses;
- (o) rules on inquiry or investigation in the case of accusation or petition of veterinary practitioners;
- (p) other matters within the scope of objectives or authority of the Veterinary Council under this Act or other relevant laws.
- (5) to carry out other activities as stipulated by provisions of law to be the powers and duties of the Board.

Rules of the Veterinary Council under (a), (b), (c), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), and (o) shall come into force upon their publication in the Government Gazette.

**Section 25.** The President, the Vice President, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Public Relations Officer, and the Treasurer of the Veterinary Council shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) President shall have the following powers and duties:
- (a) to manage and operate the Veterinary Council in accordance with resolutions of the Board:
- (b) to represent the Veterinary Council in matters relating to external persons;
  - (c) to preside over the Board meeting.

The President of the Veterinary Council may assign, in writing, any other members of the Board to perform duties on his or her behalf, as deemed appropriate.

- (2) First Vice President shall be an assistant to the Chairperson of the Veterinary Council in matters within the scope of powers and duties of the President as assigned by him or her and shall be an Acting President when he or she is absent or unable to perform the duty;
- (3) Second Vice President shall be an assistant to the President of the Veterinary Council in matters within the scope of powers and duties of the President as assigned

by him or her and shall be an Acting President when he or she and the first Vice President are absent or unable to perform their duty;

- (4) Secretary-General shall have the following powers and duties:
- (a) to supervise every level of officials of the Veterinary Council;
- (b) to be in charge of general administrative work of the Veterinary Council;
- (c) to be responsible in keeping the record of membership registration, record of veterinary practitioners and other records of the Veterinary Council;
  - (d) to oversee and maintain assets of the Veterinary Council;
  - (e) to be a secretary of the Board meetings;
- (5) Deputy Secretary-General shall be an assistant to the Secretary-General in matters within the scope of powers and duties of the Secretary-General as assigned by him or her and shall be an Acting Secretary-General when he or she is absent or unable to perform the duty;
- (6) Public Relations Officer shall have powers and duties in public relations, providing recommendations and disseminating the work of the Veterinary Council to the members, public and other organizations;
- (7) Treasurer shall have powers and duties in controlling, supervising and being in charge of accounting, finance and budget of the Veterinary Council;

Advisors under section 17 and other positions under section 18 paragraph two shall have powers and duties as specified by the Board.

# CHAPTER IV Operation of the Board

**Section 26.** At a meeting of the Board, the presence of not less than one-half of existing members is required to constitute a quorum.

A resolution of a meeting shall be by a majority of the votes. In casting votes, each member shall have one vote. In case of an equality of votes, the person presiding over the meeting shall have an additional vote as a casting vote.

A resolution of a meeting to withdraw a membership under section 15(4) or to suspend or revoke a license under section 45 paragraph three shall be voted for by not less than two-thirds of the existing members in office.

Provisions of paragraph one and paragraph two shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to a meeting of a sub-committee.

A meeting of an advisory panel shall be in accordance with the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 27.** The Honorary President may attend any meeting and give opinion to a meeting of the Board or may send an opinion regarding any matters in writing to the Veterinary Council.

**Section 28.** A resolution of the Board in the following matters shall be approved by the Honorary President prior to its execution:

- (1) issuance of any Rule;
- (2) budget plan of the Veterinary Council;
- (3) withdrawal of a membership under section 15 (4);
- (4) decision to suspend or withdraw a license under section 45 paragraph three (2) (a) or (c).

The President of the Veterinary Council shall present a resolution under paragraph one to the Honorary President without delay and the Honorary President may veto such resolution. In the case that the resolution is not vetoed within fifteen days from the date of being notified of the resolution, it shall be deemed to be approved by the Honorary President.

If the Honorary President vetoes a resolution, the Board shall hold a meeting and consider such matter again within thirty days from the date that the resolution has been vetoed. In the case where two third of the total existing members votes confirming the resolution, the resolution shall be implemented.

# CHAPTER V Control of Practice of the Veterinary Profession

**Section 29.** No person shall perform veterinary profession or any practice which would mislead other person that he or she has the right to be a veterinary practitioner except in one of the following circumstances:

- (1) a veterinary profession done to his or her animal except in the case that it is a commercial animal farming with the size, type and amount of animals specified by the Board and published in the Government Gazette;
- (2) an animal treatment without any fee or rewards and such action is not be a surgery, radiotherapy, acupuncture for therapeutic or anesthetic purpose, nor prescription of specially controlled medicine, psychotropic substances or narcotic drugs under such laws, as the case may be;
- (3) being a student, university student or trainee who practices or being trained under the State controlled veterinary science institutes or institutes granted by a State permission to be established or educational institutions or other medical institutes accredited by the Veterinary Council. Provided that It is under supervision of a training official or trainer who is a veterinary practitioner;
- (4) being a civil servant, official, employee or personnel of a ministry, sub-ministry, department, municipality, provincial administrative organization, *Tambon* administrative organization, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, City of Pattaya, other local government of special form as stipulated by law, or Thai Red Cross Society, to perform veterinary profession in accordance with his or her powers and duties or in accordance with the written assignment of such government agency or organization;
- (5) being a person whom a ministry, sub-ministry, department, municipality, provincial administrative organization, *Tambon* administrative organization, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, City of Pattaya, other local government of special form as stipulated by law, or Thai Red Cross Society assigns to perform veterinary profession in accordance with the regulation specified by the Minister;
- (6) a veterinary profession practiced by a government advisor or specialist or a teacher in educational institutions or other veterinary science institution accredited by the Veterinary Council with the foreign license to perform veterinary profession as approved by the Board.
- **Section 30.** No person who does not register and holds a license shall use the word or statement in Thai or foreign letter "Paravet", "Veterinarian", "Female Paravet" or "Female Veterinarian" or abbreviation of such words with his or her name or surname or use any word or statement bearing the same meaning or perform with any mean to mislead other person that he or she is a veterinary profession including employment, hire, request, or consent

other person to commit such action for him or her. This shall be in accordance with the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 31.** Forms and types of license, rules, procedures and conditions for registration, license issuance, license renewal, issuance of letters of approval or certification of knowledge and specialization in different branches of veterinary profession, letters certifying other qualifications in veterinary profession, issuance of a license substitute, approval letters or certificates or letters certifying other qualifications shall be in accordance with the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 32.** Veterinary practitioners shall be divided into two classes as follows: first class veterinary practitioners and second class veterinary practitioners.

**Section 33.** A person who has the right to register and holds a license to be a veterinary profession under section 32 shall have the following knowledge:

- (1) to be a first class veterinary practitioner, he or she must:
- (a) obtain a degree in veterinary science from an educational institution in Thailand accredited by the Ministry of University Affairs or the Veterinary Council;
- (b) obtain a degree in veterinary science from a foreign educational institution and hold a license to be a practitioner in the country where he or she obtains the degree except if he or she is a Thai national, he or she may not hold a license to practice veterinary profession in that country but he or she has to pass the knowledge test in accordance with the Rule of the Veterinary Council.
- (2) a second class veterinary practitioner must have knowledge in veterinary profession and obtains a degree in another field which is not veterinary science or a diploma from an educational institution which is accredited by the Veterinary Council and pass the knowledge test in accordance with the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 34.** An applicant for registration and license must be a member of the Veterinary Council and obtains other qualifications as specified in the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

When a membership of a veterinary practitioner expires, his or her license shall expire from the date of membership expiration.

A person whose membership of the Veterinary Council expires under section 15(2) or (3) must return the license to the Secretary-General within fifteen days from the date of being notified that the membership expires under section 15 (4) or (5).

**Section 35.** A veterinary practitioner must practice his or her profession within the restrictions and conditions specified in the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 36.** A veterinary practitioner must maintain the ethics of the veterinary profession as specified by the Rule of the Veterinary Council.

**Section 37.** A person who has been injured from a breach of restrictions or conditions of veterinary profession under section 35 or from a violation of the ethics of the veterinary profession under section 36 shall have the right to accuse the veterinary practitioner by submitting a written complaint to the Veterinary Council.

Members of the Board or other persons who find or know that any veterinary practitioner breaches restrictions or conditions of veterinary profession under section 35 or violates the ethics of the veterinary profession under section 36 have the right to accuse a the veterinary practitioner by submitting a petition to the Veterinary Council.

The rights to accusation under paragraph one or the right to petition under paragraph two shall terminate after one year limitation period from the date that the injured or the petitioner has known about the misconduct and known the person who commits the act, provided that it shall not exceed the period of three years from the date of misconduct.

A withdrawal of the complaint or the petition already been submitted shall not be a cause to terminate the proceeding under this Act.

**Section 38.** When the Veterinary Council receives the complaint or a petition under section 37, the Secretary-General shall submit the matter to the chairperson of a subcommittee on ethics without delay.

**Section 39.** The Board shall appoint a sub-committee on ethics from members consisting of one chairperson and no less than two members of the sub-committee. The sub-committee shall have powers and duties to make an inquiry of the fact in matters received

under section 38 and prepare a report together with its opinion and submit it to the Board for consideration.

The Board may appoint more than one sub-committee on ethics.

- **Section 40.** Upon receiving the report and opinion of the sub-committee on ethics, the Board shall consider them and pass one of the following resolutions:
- (1) to assign the sub-committee on ethics to find out additional facts and submit it to the Board for consideration;
- (2) to assign a sub-committee on investigation to make an investigation where there is a reasonable ground to believe that the accusation or the petition is prima facie;
- (3) to dismiss the accusation or the petition where the Board considers that it is groundless.
- **Section 41.** The Board shall appoint a sub-committee on investigation from members consisting of one chairperson and no less than two members of the sub-committee. The sub-committee shall have powers and duties to investigate, conclude the investigation and present file of a case together with its opinion to the Board for adjudication.

The Board may appoint more than one sub-committee on investigation.

**Section 42.** The Board, the sub-committee on ethics and the sub-committee on investigation shall have powers to summon any person to give a testimony statement and shall order any person to send documents or objects for the benefits of the execution of the Board and sub-committees.

For the execution of the Board, the sub-committee on ethics and the sub-committee on investigation, the members of the Board, the sub-committee on ethics and the sub-committee on investigation shall be competent officials under the Penal Code.

**Section 43.** Chairperson of the sub-committee on investigation shall send a letter notifying the accusation or the petition including a copy of the matter thereof, to the accused under the complaint or petition at least fifteen days prior to the commencement of the investigation.

The accused under the complaint or petition shall have the right to submit explanation or to bring in witnesses or evidence to sub-committee on investigation.

Explanation or evidence shall be submitted to the chairperson of the subcommittee on investigation within fifteen days from the date of being notified by the chairperson or within the time period that may be extended by the sub-committee.

**Section 44.** When the sub-committee on investigation completes the investigation, it shall submit the investigation report together with its opinion to the Board for adjudication without delay.

**Section 45.** When the Board has received the investigation report and opinion of the sub-committee, it shall consider the report and opinion without delay.

The Board may request the sub-committee on investigation for an additional investigation prior to its adjudication.

The Board has powers to make one of the following decisions:

- (1) to dismiss the accusation or the petition in the case where it considers that a veterinary practitioner did not perform any wrongdoing as accused or petitioned or;
  - (2) to punish one of the followings in the case where it considers that a veterinary practitioner committed a misconduct as accused or petitioned:
    - (a) to give a warning;
    - (b) to give a reprimand;
    - (c) to suspend a license for a period deemed appropriate but shall not exceed two years;
    - (d) to revoke a license.

Subject to section 28, the decision of the Board under this section shall be made in the form of an order of the Veterinary Council and state the reasoning of the adjudication. The decision shall be final.

**Section 46.** The Secretary-General shall notify the Order of the Veterinary Council to the accused under the complaint or petition within fifteen days from the date of issuance of the Order and shall record the contents of the Order in the register of veterinary practitioners.

Rules and procedure for the notification of the Order under paragraph one shall be in accordance with the Regulation specified by the Board.

**Section 47.** Subject to section 29, a veterinary practitioner whose license is suspended or revoked shall not perform veterinary profession or any action which could mislead other persons that he or she has the right to perform veterinary profession from the date of being notified of the Order of the Veterinary Council on the suspension or revocation of such license.

**Section 48.** In the case where a veterinary profession whose license is suspended violates section 47, the Board shall order for the revocation of the license of such person.

**Section 49.** A veterinary practitioner whose license is revoked may apply for a license after a lapse of two years from the date of revocation. In the case where the Board considers the license application and refuses the issuance of the license, that person may reapply for the license again after a lapse of one year from the date of refusal. If the Board refuses to issue the license for the second time, that person shall lose the right to apply for the license.

Provision of paragraph one shall apply to a person who practices the treatment of animals under the law on control of treatment of animals whose license is revoked prior to the enforcement of this Act as for the license application for a veterinary practitioner under the Act.

CHAPTER VI Supervision

**Section 50.** The Minister shall have powers to supervise the operation of the Veterinary Council and practices of veterinary profession and shall order competent officials to inquire facts relating to the operation of the Veterinary Council and practices of veterinary profession.

**Section 51.** In the course of execution of duties in accordance with order of the Minister under section 50, competent officials shall have the following powers:

- (1) to enter into the office of a veterinary practitioner during its operating hours to inspect or control in accordance with this Act;
- (2) to enter into any place or vehicle where there is a reasonable ground to believe that there will be a wrongdoing, under this Act, during the sunrise and sunset or during its operating hours in order to inspect any document or article which could be used as evidence in the wrongdoing under this Act and if there is a reasonable ground to believe that if it is left until the search warrant is issued, such documents or articles will be moved, hidden, destroyed or transformed;
- (3) to seize any document or article which may be used as an evidence in the prosecution of wrongdoing under this Act;

In the execution of duties of the competent official under paragraph one, the concerned person shall provide appropriate facilitation thereto.

**Section 52.** A competent official shall, in the execution under this Act, produce his or her identification card.

The identification card shall be in accordance with the form specified by the Minister and is published in the Government Gazette.

**Section 53.** In the execution of duties under this Act, a competent official shall be the official under the Penal Code.

## CHAPTER VII Penalties

**Section 54.** Any person who violates section 29 or section 47 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding three year or to a fine of not exceeding sixty thousand baht or to both.

**Section 55.** Any person who violates section 30 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding one year or to a fine of not exceeding twenty thousand baht or to both.

**Section 56.** Any person who violates section 34 paragraph three or fails to facilitate a competent official in the execution of his or her duties under section 51 paragraph two shall be liable to a fine of not exceeding one thousand baht.

**Section 57.** Any person who fails to give a testimony statement or fails to hand in requested documents or articles under section 42 paragraph one without any reasonable cause shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding one month or to a fine of not exceeding one thousand baht or to both.

## Transitory Provisions

**Section 58.** Any person who has registered and holds a license to practice the treatment of animals under the law on control of treatment of animals when this Act comes into force shall be deemed a member of the Veterinary Council under this Act.

A member of the Veterinary Council under paragraph one shall pay membership fee, maintenance fee and other related fee within ninety days from the date that the Rule of Veterinary Council under section 24(4) (c) comes into force. In the case where he or she fails to pay the fees within the specified period, his or her membership shall expire and section 34 paragraph two and paragraph three shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**Section 59.** Any person who has registered and holds a license to practice the treatment of animals under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 and the license is still in effect on the date that this Act comes into force shall be deemed that that person has registered and hold a license for veterinary profession under this Act as follows:

- (1) any person who has registered and holds a first class license for practitioner of animal treatments shall be deemed to be registered and holds a first class license for veterinary practitioner;
- (2) any person who has registered and holds a second class license for practitioner of animal treatments shall be deemed to be registered and holds a second class license for veterinary practitioner;

A veterinary practitioner under (1) and (2) has the right to perform veterinary profession under conditions specified in the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 and

conditions stated in the license for the remaining time of such license except in the case where that person has submitted a registration and received a license to be a veterinary practitioner under this Act prior to the expiration of the license. Provided that he or she shall have the right to continue practicing a veterinary profession unless the Board orders the refusal of issuance of the license and, in this regard, section 34 paragraph three shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**Section 60.** At the beginning period where there is no election for the Board members under section 16 (3), the Board shall consist of the Director of Department of Livestock development as President of the Veterinary Council and members of the Board under section 16(1) and (2) as members.

The appointment of the members under section 16(2) shall be completed within thirty days from the date that this Act comes into force.

The Director of Department of Livestock Development shall appoint members under paragraph one as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Public Relations Officer and Treasurer, one person for each position until such positions are filled by selected members under section 18 paragraph two.

The election of members under section 16(3) shall be completed within one hundred and twenty days from the date that this Act comes into force.

- **Section 61.** Application for registration and for practitioner of animal treatments and application for amendment or addition of statements of the registration submitted under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 prior to the date that this Act comes into force shall be dealt as follows:
- (1) if the Board on Control of Animal Treatments under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 has not yet considered such applications, such applications shall be deemed the applications under this Act and when an applicant applies to be a member of the Veterinary Council, the application shall continue to proceed under the provisions of this Act;
- (2) if the Board on Control of Animal Treatments under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 has considered such applications and ordered accordingly, such applications shall proceed under the provisions of the Control of Treatment of Animals Act until a license for practitioner of animal treatments has been issued and, in this regard, section 58 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**Section 62.** An inquiry and consideration for a suspension or revocation of license for practitioner of animal treatments pending the consideration under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 on the date that this Act comes into force shall proceed under the provisions of this Act except:

(1) in the case where an inquiry under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 has completed before this Act comes into force but the Board on Control of Animal Treatments has not yet made any order, the inquiry shall be deemed effective and the Board and the Secretary-General under this Act shall continue to proceed under section 45 and section 46 of this Act:

(2) in the case where an inquiry has been conducted and the Board on Control of Animal Treatments has made an ordered under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 before this Act comes into force but has not yet notified the accused licensee, the inquiry and order shall be deemed effective and it shall be proceeded under section 46 of this Act and, in this regard, section 45 paragraph four of this Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**Section 63.** Subject to section 60 and section 61 of this Act, any ongoing execution under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 on the date that this Act comes into force shall continue to proceed as specified by the Board.

**Section 64.** The Ministerial Regulations, Rules, or Notifications issued under the Control of Treatment of Animals Act, B.E. 2505 shall continue to be in force so far as they are not contrary to or inconsistent with this Act until Ministerial Regulations, Regulations, or Rules has issued by virtue of this Act which shall not exceed one hundred and eighty days from the date that this Act comes into force.

Countersigned by:

Police Lieutenant Colonel Thaksin Shinawatra

Prime Minister

#### Rate of Fees

(1) Fee for registration of a license for a first class veterinary practitioner and license renewal

5,000 baht each

(2) Fee for registration of a license for a second class veterinary practitioner and license renewal

3,000 baht each

(3) Fee for a certificate of registration for a veterinary practitioner

500 baht each

(4) Fee for a letter of approval or certification of knowledge
And expertise in veterinary profession and
Diploma certifying other qualifications in veterinary profession

2,000 baht each

(5) Fee for a license substitute under (1) and (2) And substitution of document under (4)

500 baht each

