

Differences Between CS SS HB 251 Versions R and O  
**Version O is dated 3/26/12**

1. Section 1 - Version O:

a. **ADDS** language requiring the Department to verify information provided by a licensed veterinarian from out of state wishing to provide pro bono care. The Veterinarian must provide contact information and a copy of his/her license from the State in which the Veterinarian lives and practices. (*Version O, Page 2, Lines 1-8*)

2. Section 2 - Version O:

a. **DELETES** “gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct;” (*Version R, Page 2, Lines 22-23*); and “gross negligence, or negligent conduct” (*Version R, Page 2, Line 24*). Testimony by Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association revealed concern that these phrases created a higher bar to showing professional incompetence.

3. Section 3 -Version O:

a. Extends the time allowed to file a complaint to two years following the act or omission which is the basis for the complaint. (*Version O – Page 3, Line 19*)

4. New Section 4 - Version O:

a. Creates a Task Force to examine the need for and status of veterinary services in rural Alaska, including rabies vaccinations. Task Force members are:

- Two House members representing rural Alaska
- Two Senate members representing rural Alaska
- Representative of the Alaska Federation of Natives
- Representative of the State Board of Veterinary Examiners
- State Epidemiologist or designee
- DHSS/Div. of Public Health Veterinarian or designee
- DEC State Veterinarian or designee
- A veterinarian providing services in rural Alaska, not a member of the Board

- A veterinarian providing services in a road-system (urban) community in Alaska, not a member of the Board (*Version O, Page 4, Lines 3-31 and Page 5, Line 1*)

The Task Force recommendations are due to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2012.