



Representative Sam Kito

Alaska State Legislature

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House Rules

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Sponsor Statement

House Bill 144

"An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Veterinary Examiners; and providing for an effective date."

House Bill 144 extends the termination date for the Board of Veterinary Examiners until June 30, 2025.

Legislative Audit conducted their review of this board and determined that "the board is serving in the public's interest by effectively licensing and regulating veterinarians and veterinary technicians. The board monitors licensees and works to ensure only qualified individuals practice. Furthermore, the board develops and adopts regulations to improve the veterinarian and veterinary technician occupations in Alaska. In accordance with AS 08.03.010(c)(22), the board is scheduled to terminate on June 30, 2017. We recommend that the legislature extend the board's termination date to June 30, 2025."

The board currently oversees 784 active licensees and is made up of five members. State law requires four board positions be filled by licensed veterinarians that have been engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine in the state for at least five years prior to appointment. The remaining position is to be filled by an individual from the general public.

The continuation of the Board of Veterinary Examiners is important to the health and safety of Alaska's pets and livestock.

Thank you for your support of House Bill 144.