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Y. Hernandez
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10-16-03
Date

2003 SENATE AGRICULTURE

SB 2139

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

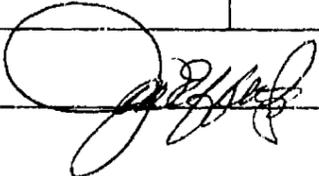
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2139

Senate Agriculture Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 01/16/03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		1701-5093

Committee Clerk Signature 

Minutes:

Chairman Flakoll opened the hearing on SB 2139. All committee members were present.

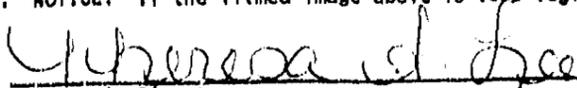
John R. Boyce, Executive Secretary of the North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical

Examiners, testified in favor of the bill (written testimony). In order to be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in North Dakota, a candidate must have either graduated from an accredited school or possess a certificate that states he has met the standards of an accredited school. He explained that all non accredited schools of veterinary medicine are foreign schools.

The waiting period for a candidate who has met the requirements to practice veterinary medicine but is waiting to take a proficiency examination can be up to a year. This bill is intended to benefit these candidates. This bill is patterned after a similar bill recently adopted in Minnesota.

Senator Flakoll asked what necessitated the need for this bill.

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Senate Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2139
Hearing Date 01/16/03

Dr. Boyce stated that we are a small state and have only 400 licensed veterinarians, 200 that live in North Dakota. A few years ago there was an inquiry from a candidate who wanted to practice while completing the licensing steps. Since then, there have been three or four more inquiries. Senator Flakoll asked what non accredited schools would have students who would qualify for this temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine.

Dr. Boyce stated the requirements that candidates must meet to qualify for a temporary license to practice veterinary medicine under this bill essentially limit the qualified candidates to graduates of two schools, both in the Caribbean. These schools are Ross University in St. Kitts and St. George's University in Granada. They enroll primarily Americans and their programs are patterned after US programs. Students at both schools do their fourth year clinical work at an US accredited school. The graduates of these schools are looking for jobs in the US. There have been inquiries from many North Dakota veterinarians who would like to hire these graduates.

Senator Flakoll stated there is a bill in House Education that makes it a class D misdemeanor to list graduation from a non accredited institution of higher learning. What assurances can Dr. Boyce give the committee that the students graduating from these schools are worthy?

Dr. Boyce stated he does not know anything about the bill in House Education. The consensus in the profession is that these schools are certainly acceptable. They are not accredited because they do not have all the things an accredited school needs. There are hundreds of graduates of Ross practicing in the US. These students complete their fourth year of clinical study in the US at accredited schools right along side of the students who have attended that school. They certainly wouldn't accept them or give them a passing grade if they were not properly prepared.

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Senate Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2139
Hearing Date 01/16/03

Senator Flakoll asked if page 2 line 5 which refers to the duration of the temporary license, is the intent to imply whichever is sooner?

Dr. Boyce confirmed that the intent was a limit of two years to complete the requirements for a full license.

Senator Flakoll asked who assumes liability for the temporary licensee.

Dr. Boyce stated that the liability is assumed by the licensee. The North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners does not deal with liability issues, they would have to satisfy their own liability carrier.

Senator Flakoll asked if the supervision is direct. What duties can they perform?

Dr. Boyce stated the law does not specify but they certainly can't perform the tasks of a licensed veterinarian independently. The supervising veterinarian determines what level of supervision is appropriate (meter #2737).

Senator Klein asked why North Dakota has 400 licensed veterinarians but only 200 living in the state.

Dr. Boyce stated that some are veterinarians in border states and some have moved away from North Dakota but still keep their license active. Most veterinarians have licenses in multiple states.

Senator Klein asked if we have a shortage of veterinarians in North Dakota.

Dr. Boyce stated as a member of the profession, not necessarily as the Executive Director of the North Dakota Veterinary Medical Examiners, there is a shortage of veterinarians in food animal practice. It is harder to attract veterinarians to small states and particularly to rural communities.

Attracting veterinarians to food animal practice is also a national issue.

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Senate Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2139
Hearing Date 01/16/03

Senator Urlacher asked how many of the 400 licensed veterinarians are actively practicing in North Dakota and how many North Dakota students are studying at vet schools.

Dr. Boyce stated he did not know. North Dakota does have an agreement with Iowa State University to train North Dakota vet students.

Senator Flakoll asked if Ross University and St. George's University offer both small and large animal training.

Dr. Boyce stated they both do basic fundamentals. The fourth year clinical study of vet students is a mixed tract and will not allow specialization in large or small animal practice.

Senator Urlacher asked what makes these schools attractive.

Dr. Boyce stated there are qualified applicants that can't into accredited vet schools and the off shore schools offer them an option to become veterinarians.

Senator Erbele asked why the off shore schools are not accredited.

Dr. Royce stated the American Veterinary Medical Association has nine standards of accreditation and the off shore schools don't have teaching hospitals for clinical practice nor do they do research, both accreditation requirements. He stated they are not sub standard, they just lack these two requirements.

Nancy Kopp, representing the North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, testified in support of SB 2139.

She stated Dr. Boyce had provided most of the information about the bill. She answered Senator Urlacher's previous questions. The number of North Dakota students attending vet schools under the North Dakota program include:

- 4 Freshmen at Iowa State University

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10-16-03
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Senate Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2139
Hearing Date 01/16/03

- 5 Sophomores at Iowa State University
- 7 Juniors, 4 at Iowa State University, 3 at Colorado State University
- 7 Seniors, 6 at Iowa State University, 1 at Colorado State University

Ms. Kopp also stated there is a shortage of veterinarians in North Dakota, especially in the rural areas.

Senator Flakoll asked if it is safe to say that even one extra qualified veterinarian would be a blessing in North Dakota.

Ms. Kopp said absolutely.

Senator Flakoll asked if its still hard to get into vet school.

Ms. Kopp said yes. She also added that 80% of the freshman vet students entering Iowa State University were females.

Senator Urlacher asked if, with the female graduates headed primarily to small animal practice, the vet schools were considering changing their admission standards.

Ms Kopp said she didn't know.

Senator Flakoll added that they can fill their programs with students with 4.0 grade points.

Ms. Kopp stated that within the membership of the North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association (186 members), many retirements are expected in the next five years.

Wade Moser, Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, testified in favor of SB 2139 (meter #4440). With the limited numbers of veterinarians in North Dakota, we need to accommodate as many veterinarians as possible.

Senator Flakoll asked how short is North Dakota on veterinarians.

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10-16-03
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Senate Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2139
Hearing Date 01/16/03

Mr. Moser stated the situation will become more critical in the next few years with the potential loss of 5 - 7 veterinarians per year, perhaps more than that. Mr. Moser also expressed his concern regarding grade point average as the only criteria for admission to vet schools. He said large animal practice is very physically challenging. In single vet, large animal practices, there is a high burn out rate.

Senator Flakoll closed the hearing on SB 2139 (meter #4809)

It was moved by Senator Nichols, seconded Senator Klein and passed on a roll call vote that the Senate Agriculture Committee take a Do Pass action on SB 2139. Voting in favor were Senator Flakoll, Senator Erbele, Senator Klein, Senator Urlacher, Senator Nichols, Senator Seymour. No negative votes were cast.

Chairman Flakoll recessed the meeting of the Senate Agriculture Committee until the call of the chair.

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10-16-03
Date

2139 #1

Date: 1/16/03
Roll Call Vote #: SB 2139

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

Senate Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Senator Nichols Seconded By Senator Klein

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Tim Flakoll, Chair	✓		Senator Ronald Nichols	✓	
Senator Robert S. Erbele, V. Chair	✓		Senator Tom Seymour	✓	
Senator Jerry Klein	✓				
Senator Herb Urlacher	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Nichols

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Yubereva J. Joo Operator's Signature 10-16-03 Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 16, 2003 1:10 p.m.

Module No: SR-08-0651
Carrier: Nichols
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2139: Agriculture Committee (Sen. Flakoll, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS**
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2139 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-08-0651

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10-16-03
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2003 HOUSE AGRICULTURE

SB 2139

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10-16-03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2139

House Agriculture Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 2--28--03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
ONE		B	11.7 TO 21
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Edmund D. Ellyson</i>			

Minutes:

CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS: Committee Members. We will open on SB 2139.

JOHN BOYCE: Executive Secretary, north Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical examiners.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB2139. {{{please read attached testimony}}}

John Boyce did add to his testimony that if this was passed I think it would make our state So much more attractive. To these candidates. To begin working under a temporary permit. Without having to wait until they complete this program in order to be licensed. It would increase the number of qualified veterinarians in our state. Also, I talked to Nancy Kopp ND Veterinary Medical Association. She offered her support for this bill. There is printed testimony from Nancy Kopp.

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10-16-03
Date

Page 2
House Agriculture Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB2139
Hearing Date 2-28-03

REPRESENTATIVE KELSCH: Dr. Boyce, Nancy Kopps testimony. She mentioned the bill will provide an opportunity for foreign graduate students to temporarily practice under the supervision of a licensed Veterinarian pending examination.

DR BOYCE: I don't think the word students is correct. Graduates is the word. They have to be a graduate.

REP. MUELLER : On line one page two we talk about and is enrolled in the education commission for foreign veterinary graduates program. Who are we talking about here?

DR BOYCE: The ECFVG Program is operated to certify graduates of a non accredited school. Meet the same standards as accredited schools. In order for this bill to apply to them they have a to be enrolled in that program. In fact they are in the forth step of completing that program. Then they would be eligible for a temporary permit under this bill.

REPRESENTATIVE BOEHNING: If you are a graduate of a Non accredited college you basically are going to be going out and doing the same work as a veterinarian under the supervision of a veterinarian? You are going to be one without having the title of one.

DR. BOYCE: Yes, these people would be practicing under the supervision of a licensed Veterinarian. They would be Veterinarians but not have a full license.. We also offer temporary permits to people in other categories. They would be able to do everything under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS: Any additional support for SB2139.

WADE MOSER: ND STOCKMAN'S ASSOCIATION. We do support this Bill.

REPRESENTATIVE KREIDT: Do we have a shortage of veterinarians?

WADE MOSER: Yes, especially for large animals.

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House Agriculture Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB2139

Hearing Date 2-28-03

CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS CLOSED ON SB 2139

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10-16-03
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2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2139

House Agriculture Committee

Conference Committee

Blank

Hearing Date 3--6--03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
ONE	A		34.1 TO 35

Committee Clerk Signature

Minutes:

CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS: Committee Members, I am going to entertain a motion

SB 2139.

REPRESENTATIVE BOE: MADE MOTION FOR DO PASS.

REPRESENTATIVE KREDIT: SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE ROLL WAS TAKEN ON SB 2139.

THERE WERE 11 YES 0 NO 2 ABSENT

CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS CLOSED ON SB 2139

Charles U. Blum

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10-16-03
Date

SB 2139
2-6-03

Date:
Roll Call Vote #:

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

House AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DO PASS

Motion Made By BIE Seconded By VREINT

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN NICHOLAS	✓				
VICE CHAIRMAN POLLERT	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE BELTER	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE BOEHNING	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE KELSCH					
REPRESENTATIVE KINGSBURY	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE KREIDT	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE UGLEM	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE WRANGHAM	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE BOE	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE FROELICH					
REPRESENTATIVE MELLER	✓				
REPRESENTATIVE ONSTAD	✓				

Total (Yes) 11 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Ullom

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10-16-03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 6, 2003 12:29 p.m.

Module No: HR-40-4086
Carrier: Uglem
Insert LC: . Title:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2139: Agriculture Committee (Rep. Nicholas, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2139 was placed on the
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-40-4086

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10-16-03
Date

2003 TESTIMONY

SB 2139

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10-16-03

Date



North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

P.O. Box 5001, Bismarck, ND 58502, phone: 701-328-9540, fax: 701-224-0435, e-mail: ndbvme@state.nd.us

James Clement, DVM
Mandan, ND
President

Dean E. Christianson, DVM
Ashley, ND
Secretary

Frank Walker, DVM
New Rockford, ND

John R. Boyce, DVM, PhD
Executive Secretary

Senate Bill No. 2139
Senate Agriculture Committee, January 16, 2003
John R. Boyce, Executive Secretary, North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

*Same
to
House*

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB 2139. This bill was submitted by the North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to allow the board to issue temporary permits to certain graduates of non-accredited veterinary colleges, allowing them to practice in North Dakota under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian until they complete the requirements necessary for a full license.

In order to be licensed in North Dakota, graduates of veterinary colleges that are not accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association must receive a certificate that indicates that "the holder has demonstrated knowledge and skill equivalent to that possessed by a graduate of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine." North Dakota accepts certificates issued by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). The fourth and final step of the ECFVG program requires candidates either to complete a postgraduate year of evaluated clinical experience at an accredited veterinary school, or to pass a three and a half day hands-on clinical proficiency examination. Candidates who are ready to take the examination may have to wait several months before they can actually take it, and not all candidates pass all sections of the examination on their first attempt. It is these candidates that this amendment is intended to benefit.

It is important to note that the only candidates who would be eligible for a temporary permit under this amendment are those who meet all of the following requirements:

- graduate from veterinary school
- complete their fourth year of clinical study at an accredited veterinary school
- pass the national licensing examination required of all candidates for licensure
- be enrolled in the ECFVG program

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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10-16-03
Date

SENATE BILL 2139

Good Morning Chairman Nicholas and Member of the Committee.

For the record my name is Nancy Kopp. I am providing written testimony on behalf of the North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association in support of Senate Bill 2139.

Senate Bill 2139 will provide an opportunity for foreign graduate students to temporarily practice under the supervision of a licenced veterinarian, pending examination. Dr. Boyce has provided you with the details of this temporary permit to practice.

Passage of this bill could alleviate some of the difficulty veterinarians are experiencing who practice, particularly in the rural areas of North Dakota, in finding qualified practioners to provide service to producers.

The NDVMA would encourage a DO PASS recommendation on Senate Bill 2139.

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