

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 3132
By: Smithee
Agriculture & Livestock
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In Texas, individuals may practice equine dentistry only if they are a veterinarian or a licensed equine dental provider performing under the supervision of a veterinarian, all of whom must be active and in good standing. Concerns have been raised regarding a potential oversight in state law governing the practice of equine dentistry that leaves students of an equine dental provider certification program who are completing the practical requirements of the program unable to lawfully practice equine dentistry in Texas. It has been suggested that, while the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has not acted on a strict interpretation of this law, changes are necessary to ensure these students are protected in the case of a related complaint and can be licensed in Texas without having to go practice in another state. H.B. 3132 seeks to address this issue by authorizing a student of an equine dental provider certification program to perform equine dentistry under the direct supervision of a veterinarian.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 3132 amends the Occupations Code to authorize a student who is completing the practical requirements of an equine dental provider certification program approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to perform equine dentistry under the direct supervision of a veterinarian who is active and in good standing.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2021.