

Veterinary Medical Examining Board

	2013-15 Actual	2015-17 Legislatively Approved*	2017-19 Current Service Level	2017-19 Agency Request	2017-19 Governor's Recommended
Other Funds	686,186	929,442	965,727	992,189	926,052
Total Funds	\$686,186	\$929,442	\$965,727	\$992,189	\$926,052
Positions	3	4	4	4	4
FTE	2.75	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50

*Includes Emergency Board and administrative actions through December 2016.

Program Description

The Veterinary Medical Examining Board protects animal health and welfare, public health, and consumers of veterinary services. The Board determines license qualifications and licenses veterinarians, veterinary technicians, euthanasia shelters, euthanasia technicians, and veterinary facilities. The Board also investigates consumer complaints and disciplines licensees found to be in violation of the Veterinary Practice Act; conducts national board examinations for veterinary technicians; and monitors advances and changes in the profession to determine minimum practice standards to ensure ongoing public and animal health. The Board is 100% Other Funds, through revenue generated from licensure and renewal fees.

CSL Summary and Issues

The Current Service Level, as well as the Agency Request and the Governor's Recommended budget have incorrect FTE counts. The Board should have an Executive Director (1.00 FTE), an office assistant (0.75 FTE), an investigator (1.00 FTE) and inspector (1.00 FTE) position.

Policy Issues

The Veterinary Board now includes the registration of facilities as a result of HB 2474 (2015). The annual facility registration fee, set by the Board at \$150, included a revenue estimate of \$150,000 per biennia for approximately 500 facilities. As of February 2017, the Board had registered 779 facilities. HB 2474 also included an investigator position, with the intent of ensuring compliance with facility requirements. The Board utilized self-reporting for the first year of the program, and will begin full-time facility inspections in April 2017. The Board, by rule, intends to waive facility inspections for practices that are certified by the American Animal Hospital Association, which carries higher standards than the State Board, however this equates to less than 100 facilities.

Other Significant Issues and Background

The Board licenses about 2,300 veterinarians, 1,300 veterinary technicians, and 125 euthanasia technicians on an annual renewal. The practice continues to grow incrementally, as numbers have increased about 2-4% each biennium since 2009. Complaints and investigations had decreased slightly the last two biennia, but are anticipated to increase with the new registration of facilities and the start of inspections.

The HRLB boards now share an Accountant position to perform the budget and accounting functions rather than utilizing DAS Shared Financial Services. LFO will likely need to review the budgeted amounts and make adjustments to accurately reflect the most recent cost-allocation data for distribution of the Accountant position costs between the Boards. Additionally, LFO will need to correct the position FTE and the personal services expenditures will need to be adjusted to reflect that change.

The Board's ending balance at the Governor's Budget is projected to be \$688,839 or approximately 17.9 months of operating costs. This ending balance is high due to a fee increase in 2013 and the addition of facility registration requirements passed by the 2015 Legislature.