

acupuncturist authorized to practice on animals, or provides care to an animal in accordance with the requirements imposed by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. The bill also specifies that the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may authorize the practice of a health occupation on an animal by a licensed or certified health care practitioner. The board may impose education, training, and supervisory requirements, as well as require the registration of the health care practitioner authorized to practice on an animal. A licensed veterinary practitioner is immune from any civil liability resulting from the actions of a licensed animal acupuncturist or any other health care practitioner authorized to practice on an animal. A person practicing animal acupuncture is included in the list of exclusions from the practice of veterinary medicine.

House Bill 277, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on April 29, 1997, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 326.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 326

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations – Scope of Practice

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to practice a health occupation under certain provisions of law from practicing the health occupation on animals ~~unless authorized by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners~~; specifying certain exceptions; adding a person practicing acupuncture in accordance with certain restrictions to the list of exclusions from the practice of veterinary medicine; authorizing the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to allow the practice of a health occupation on an animal by certain health care practitioners; providing that a veterinary practitioner is immune from civil liability under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the scope of practice for health occupations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Agriculture

Section 2-301(g)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1985 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Agriculture

Section 2-304(e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1985 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY adding to