

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 510

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

AGRICULTURE/FOREST DEPT: Provides relative to the Louisiana Board of Animal Health

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 3:2092(B) and 2092.1 and to enact R.S. 3:2092(C) and 2094,  
3 relative to the Louisiana Board of Animal Health; to provide for the qualifications  
4 of the state veterinarian employed by the board; to provide for venue of suits filed  
5 against the board; to provide for the powers of the state veterinarian; and to provide  
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 3:2092(B) and 2092.1 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
9 3:2092(C) and 2094 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §2092. Officers and employees

11 \* \* \*

12 B. The board, subject to the approval of the commissioner of agriculture,  
13 shall employ a director, an assistant director, and a state veterinarian, all of whom  
14 shall be in the unclassified service. The state veterinarian shall be the executive  
15 secretary of the board. The commissioner of agriculture shall employ such other  
16 personnel of the board as are necessary. All employees of the board shall be under  
17 the direction and supervision of the commissioner of agriculture.

18 C. The state veterinarian shall be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in  
19 this state, shall be a graduate of a recognized school of veterinary medicine, and shall

1 have at least five years experience as a veterinarian, ~~at least three years of which~~  
2 ~~shall be experienced in the regulatory control of livestock disease.~~

3 §2092.1. Domicile; hearings; appeals

4 ~~A.~~ The board shall be domiciled in the city of Baton Rouge, and no suit may  
5 be filed against the board at any place other than the parish of East Baton Rouge. ~~In~~  
6 ~~suits against the board, all service shall be made on the director or on any board~~  
7 ~~employee located at the board's office.~~

8 \* \* \*

9 §2094. Powers of the state veterinarian

10 The state veterinarian may:

11 (1) Establish, maintain, and enforce quarantine lines and place movement  
12 restrictions on intrastate and interstate travel of livestock.

13 (2) Place any livestock in quarantine until the necessary inspections or tests  
14 or epidemiological investigations have been completed.

15 (3) Appoint inspectors to enter premises, to inspect and disinfect livestock  
16 premises, and enforce quarantines.

17 (4) Make a determination based on epidemiological evaluation of current  
18 disease risks that additional requirements are needed to prevent the introduction or  
19 spread of disease.

20 (5) Direct a person to comply with the entry or additional requirements in  
21 writing or orally and confirmed in writing.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Chaney

HB No. 510

**Abstract:** Revises the qualifications of the state veterinarian employed by the La. Board of Animal Health, clarifies the service of suits filed against the board, and provides for the powers of the state veterinarian.

Present law allows the members of the La. Board of Animal Health (board), upon approval of the commissioner of agriculture, to employ a director, assistant director, and state

veterinarian. Requires the state veterinarian to serve as executive secretary of the board. Further allows the commissioner of agriculture to employ other necessary board personnel.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the state veterinarian to be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in La., be a graduate of a recognized school of veterinary medicine, and have at least five years of experience as a veterinarian, of which includes three years of experience in the regulatory control of livestock disease.

Proposed law retains present law relative to the licensing, educational, and five-year experience requirements of the state veterinarian but removes present law stipulation that three of the five years of veterinary experience be in the regulatory control of livestock disease.

Present law requires the board to be domiciled in the city of Baton Rouge and provides that suits filed against the board are permitted only in East Baton Rouge Parish. Present law further provides that all service on suits filed against the board are made on the director or any employee located at the board's office.

Proposed law retains present law domiciliary requirements for the board and the restriction that all suits filed against the board are permitted only in East Baton Rouge Parish. Proposed law removes present law provision that all service of suits filed against the board are made on the director or any employee located at the board's office.

Proposed law provides the state veterinarian with the following powers:

- (1) To establish, maintain, and enforce quarantine lines and place restrictions on intrastate and interstate travel of livestock.
- (2) To place any livestock in quarantine until necessary inspections, tests, or specific investigations have been completed.
- (3) To appoint inspectors to enter premises, to inspect and disinfect livestock premises, and enforce quarantines.
- (4) To make a determination based on the current study of disease risks that additional requirements are needed to prevent the introduction or spread of disease.
- (5) To direct a person to comply with the entry or additional requirements in writing or orally and confirmed in writing.

(Amends R.S. 3:2092(B) and 2092.1; Adds R.S. 3:2092(C) and 2094)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

##### House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Clarified that the state veterinarian's authority to establish, maintain, and enforce quarantine lines and place restrictions on intrastate and interstate travel is applicable to livestock.