

Existing 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.

New law retains existing law.

Existing 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.

Prior law stipulated that three of the five years of veterinary experience be in the regulatory control of livestock disease.

New law retains existing law and removes the stipulation that three of the five years of veterinary experience be in the regulatory control of livestock disease.

Existing 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.

Prior law provided that all service on suits filed against the board be made on the director or any employee located at the board's office.

New law requires that all service of suits filed against the board are made on the commissioner of agriculture.

New 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.

Effective August 1, 2013.

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