



2023 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 142

SENATE ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator** Castleberry

1 **An Act to prohibit certain persons from using the title veterinary technician.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That chapter 36-12 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

4 A person who is not registered as a veterinary technician by the State Board of
 5 Veterinary Medical Examiners, or whose registration is suspended or revoked, may not:

6 (1) Assume or use the title veterinary technician; or

7 (2) Advertise or otherwise represent oneself as a veterinary technician.

8 A veterinarian may not advertise or otherwise represent an employee as a
 9 veterinary technician unless the employee is registered by the State Board of Veterinary
 10 Medical Examiners as a veterinary technician.

11 A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

12 **Section 2. That chapter 36-12 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

13 Prior to July 1, 2025, a person who is not registered as a veterinary technician by
 14 the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may not assume or use the title
 15 veterinary technician unless the person:

16 (1) Has successfully completed a veterinary technician course of study approved by
 17 the board; and

18 (2) Submits a notarized document to the board from the person's employing
 19 veterinarian certifying that the person:

20 (a) Has at least five years of practical experience working under the supervision
 21 of the veterinarian; and

22 (b) Has agreed to become registered as a veterinary technician under chapter
 23 36-12 by July 1, 2025.

24 A veterinarian may advertise or otherwise represent an employee as a veterinary
 25 technician who satisfies the requirements of this section.

- 1 **Section 3.** Section 1 of this Act is effective July 1, 2025.