

**LAW  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**on the veterinary activity**

No. 1538-XII from 23.06.93

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The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova adopts the present Law, which shall determine the basic principles of organization and realization of the veterinary activity on the territory of the republic.

**I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1. Notions on the Veterinary Activity**

(1) It is to be understood under the term of veterinary activity the kind of activity, oriented towards the protection against diseases of all animal species, including birds, bees, silk worms, crayfish, fish, frogs, shellfish and other representatives of the fauna (hereinafter - "animals"), spread on the territory of the republic, the prevention of disease transmission from animals to men and from men to animals, the insurance of the sanitary-veterinary control of fabrication of products and raw material of wholesome animal and vegetal origin.

(2) The accomplishment of the said tasks of state importance shall be assumed to the duty of all state institutions and organizations, to veterinary services specialists, to physical and juridical persons, maintaining animals, owning them or entertaining them on their balance, and shall be ensured by undertaking a set of house-keeping, special prophylactic and veterinary treatment measures.

**Article 2. Veterinary Legislation**

The veterinary legislation shall be constituted from the present Law and the legislative acts of the republic, adopted in accordance with it, as well as normative acts of the state administration bodies, regarding the problems of the veterinary activity.

**Article 3. The Right to Exert the Veterinary Activity**

- (1) Persons with secondary and higher veterinary education, concluding a contract with the patron shall have the right to exert the veterinary activity.
- (2) The right to individual work activity or work in cooperatives or small enterprises as veterinary specialists shall be assumed to persons, owning a license, issued by the Main State Veterinary Inspectorate of the Republic of Moldova with the agreement of the main state veterinary inspector of the respective administrative territory.
- (3) Foreign citizens or stateless persons, having the necessary veterinary qualification, may implement the veterinary activity on the territory of the Republic of Moldova only after a special attestation and the obtaining of the license in the established way.
- (4) Making responsible for the illegal veterinary activity shall be undertaken in accordance with the legislation in force.

#### Article 4. Veterinary Service

- (1) The veterinary service shall be a system of unified veterinary administration authorities, institutions, organizations, enterprises, cooperatives and small enterprises with a veterinary orientation, as well as veterinary specialists, realizing a set of special measures for the prevention of diseases and treatment of animals, the sanitary veterinary expertise of products and raw material of animal and vegetal origin.
- (2) The veterinary service shall be divided into the veterinary state service and the departmental veterinary service.
- (3) The state veterinary service shall include veterinary institutions and organizations of local and republican subordination, empowered with attributions of state veterinary supervision, while the departmental veterinary service shall include veterinary subdivisions and specialists, being under the subordination of other ministries, departments and organizations.
- (4) Working engagements and function dismissing of specialists from the veterinary service, as well as the application to them of administrative or other type of sanctions (with the exception of criminal responsibility) shall be carried out in all cases only with the consent of the state veterinary inspector of the respective administrative territory.

#### Article 5. Emergency Anti-Epizootic Commissions

For an urgent ruling, undertaking emergency measures and coordination of the activity of physical and juridical persons for the prevention and a mass fight with epizooty and animal morbidity, the Government shall create anti-epizootic emergency republican, district and city commissions, acting according to the regulation on them, adopted in the established way.

#### Article 6. Association of Veterinary Specialists

The association of veterinary specialists is a public organization, contributing to the development of the branch-wise science, the improvement of the veterinary zootechnical services, increasing the qualification of the veterinary specialists, as well as their juridical and social protection.

#### Article 7. Veterinary Seal

The veterinary specialists shall have the right to use in their activity the veterinary seal of the established model.

## II. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF SPECIALISTS OF THE VETERINARY SERVICE

#### Article 8. The Tasks of Specialists from the Veterinary Service

The main tasks of specialists from the veterinary service shall be the following:

- a) prophylaxis, diagnosis and treatment of infectious and non-infectious animal diseases;
- b) the control over the fabrication, processing, storage and delivery of healthy products and raw materials of animal origin, in accordance with veterinary requirements;
- c) the protection of the population against common men and animal diseases (zooanthroponoses);
- d) the protection of the territory of the republic from the introduction of infectious diseases from the territories of other states;
- e) the control over the permutations, export and import of animals, of products and raw materials of animal origin, as well as of fodder;
- f) the sanitary veterinary expertise of products and raw materials of animal origin, as well as the sanitary expertise of vegetal production, commercialized on the market;
- g) the control over the quality of veterinary substances used for prophylaxis, diagnosis and treatment of animal diseases, as well as of nutritious supplements, used in animal husbandry;
- h) the control over the observance by physical and juridical persons of sanitary veterinary requirements on the protection of health of animals and the protection of the environment from its pollution with animal husbandry remnants;
- i) the contribution to the development of the veterinary science and the practical application of its achievements and of the advanced experience.

#### Article 9. The Responsibility of Specialists from Veterinary Services

The specialists from the veterinary service shall be fully responsible for exerting their obligations in accordance with the tasks indicated in art.8 and, together with the epidemiological sanitary service, shall be responsible for depicting of common to men and animals diseases, for undertaking measures of prophylaxis and of fighting diseases, as well as measures for the prevention of toxic infections of people, resulting from the consumption of food products of animal origin.

### III. STATE VETERINARY SERVICE

#### Article 10. The Competence of the State Veterinary Service

The following items shall be of the exclusive competence of the veterinary service:

- a) the elaboration of the veterinary Charter;
- b) the organization of the veterinary activity and management of activity of the veterinary service on the whole territory of the republic;
- c) the issue of licenses for the right to undertake individual working activity while offering veterinary assistance;
- d) exerting state veterinary survey;
- e) the determination, together with the bodies of state sanitary survey and with the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and Alimentation and the Ministry of Health of a range of problems on the common control of the activity of objectives, undertaken by the state veterinary service;
- f) the determination of basic principles and strategic directions for the development of the veterinary activity, of the improvement of its organizational, structural forms, as well as the improvement of juridical norms;
- g) the elaboration of documents and normative recommendations regarding problems of veterinary medicine;
- h) the assurance of the realization of republican and interstate programs of protection of territories against the introduction and diffusion of especially dangerous infectious diseases (needing the establishment of quarantine measures), against technogenic influences and other impacts for animals;
- i) the elaboration and realization, together with health institutions, of measures on prophylaxis and liquidation of common for men and animals diseases' focuses;
- j) the elaboration and approval of standards, technical-normative documentation for the veterinary preparations, equipment, instruments, fodder supplements and other means of veterinary usage, made within the

- republic, and the control over the imported goods for the prophylaxis and the diagnosis of diseases and the treatment of animals;
- k) the formation and placement of means of republican reserves of veterinary usage for the implementation of certain anti-epizootic measures or other special activities;
  - l) the submission to the veterinary expertise the documentation on the project in the drafting process of veterinary and animal husbandry objectives and of enterprises of processing the animal production, exerting the control over the observance of the said drafts in the process of construction;
  - m) the interdiction or the suspension of the construction and reconstruction of animal husbandry buildings, establishments for the procession of meat, of sections, deposits and other industrial units, not corresponding with the sanitary veterinary requirements;
  - n) attestation of meat factories, butcher points and other objectives and issuance of permits for the right of fabrication, procession, transportation and storage of products and raw materials of animal origin, as well as for the right of production and commercialization of veterinary usage means, and in case of necessity, the interdiction of the mentioned activities;
  - o) the control over the quality of the sanitary veterinary expertise of products and raw material of animal origin, undertaken by the veterinary service at all objectives of their production, procession, transportation and storage, as well as the sanitary expertise of vegetal products, commercialized in markets;
  - p) the issuance of authorizations for the usage and procession of products and raw material of animal origin with questionable quality;
  - q) the control over the execution by the bodies of local self-administration of indications of non-admission of appearance on their territory of dogs, cats and other stray animals;
  - r) the issue of recommendation letters to the administration of markets, shops and to the bodies of local self-administration, to other physical and juridical persons, regarding the delivery of products and raw materials of animal origin, improper to the human consumption and the nutrition of animals for their industrial procession or usage in the way established by the state veterinary service;
  - s) the control of the state of places for the commercialization of production of animal origin, the verification of storage conditions in food shops, lodges, stores, refrigerators, catering units, the control over the liquidation of products of animal and vegetal origin, improper to the human consumption and animal nutrition;
  - t) the carrying out of laboratory researches aiming at the diagnosis of animals, the sanitary veterinary assessment of products and raw materials of animal origin in accordance with the regulations in force, as well as for their export and the detection of cases of food intoxication;

- u) the control over the observance of sanitary veterinary requirements in the process of permutations, export and import of animals, products and raw materials of animal origin, as well as of fodder;
- v) the issue of notices to the bodies of insurance regarding the motivation of necessity of slaughter or death of animals;
- w) the issue of notices regarding the causes of death of animals and the usage products of animal origin with the aim of the establishment of the degree of culpability of the serving personnel, of veterinary specialists and other physical and juridical persons;
- x) the determination, together with the institutions of higher and secondary education and with the Association of veterinary specialists of the necessary constituency of veterinary specialists, the coordination of a program of their instruction, the verification of the degree of professional training of the graduates of the higher educational veterinary institutions;
- y) the attestation of veterinary specialists aiming the verification of the degree of correspondence between the accomplished function, the attributed category and the class of qualification necessary for the establishment of reimbursement;
- z) the representation of the republican interests concerning the problems of the veterinary medicine in the international bodies and within the framework of collaboration with the veterinary services of other countries.

#### Article 11. The Obligatoriness of the Fulfillment of the Requirements of the State Veterinary Service

The requirements of the state veterinary specialists exerting their functions are compulsory to be observed in the zone of their activity for all the juridical and physical persons, the production of which is subject to state veterinary control.

#### Article 12 Structure and Subordination of State Veterinary Services

- (1) The structure of the state veterinary service shall be determined by the Ministry of Agriculture and Alimentation, in accordance with the necessity of the creation of veterinary institutions, taking into consideration the territorial-administrative division of the republic, the number and specific consistency of animals, the placement of animal butchering enterprises and of procession of products of animal origin, as well as in accordance with the necessity of the protection of the republican territory against the introduction of infectious diseases from the territories of other states.
- (2) The central body of the state veterinary service shall be the Direction of Veterinary Medicine with the State Veterinary Inspectorate, being a part of the Ministry of Agriculture and Alimentation and being subjected to it.

(3) Bodies of administration of state veterinary service from districts and towns, the veterinary sector clinics, the veterinary circumscriptions, as well as the persons, undertaking individual working activity in the field of veterinary medicine, concerning matters of general order shall be subordinated to the bodies of local self-administration, whereas in matters of special order - to the hierarchically higher instances of the state veterinary service, while the departmental veterinary service in general matters shall be subordinated to the respective department, and in special ones - only to the respective state territorial veterinary service.

#### IV. FINANCING AND TECHNICAL AND MATERIAL ASSURANCE OF ACTIVITY OF THE VETERINARY SERVICE

##### Article 13. Sources of Financing of the Activity of the Veterinary Service

- (1) The activity of the state veterinary service shall be financed from the account of state budgetary means, as well as from the means, obtained from provision of veterinary assistance and other paid services in the field.
- (2) The activity of the departmental veterinary service shall be financed from the account of means of the respective departments.
- (3) The payment of the persons, undertaking individual working activity in the field of veterinary medicine shall be made on the account of the means, obtained from provision of paid services.

##### Article 14. Financing of Special Veterinary Measures

- (1) All the measures of prophylaxis, diagnosis, prevention of extension and fighting of especially dangerous infectious diseases (needing the institution of quarantine measures), and other infectious diseases of animals, included in a special register, approved by the chief of the Direction for the Veterinary Medicine with the State Veterinary Inspectorate of the Ministry of the Agriculture and Alimentation, shall be implemented at the expense of the state budget.
- (2) Measures, aiming at the prevention and liquidation of all the other diseases, and the laboratory analyses during their diagnosis, the treatment of sick animals, the sanitary veterinary expertise of products and raw materials of animal origin, as well as all types of products, commercialized in markets, shall be settled by the owners of animal products in accordance with the tariffs in force.

##### Article 15. Supplying the State Veterinary Service with Offices, Public Utilities and Special Clothing

- (1) The bodies of the local self-administration, enterprises, cooperative organizations and of other types, the owners of commercial units shall be obliged to supply for a free usage the administration authorities and institutions of state

veterinary service with offices with all public utilities, with telecommunication means and other conditions for their normal functioning.

(2) All the specialists of the state veterinary service shall be supplied with special clothing, in conformity with the normative provisions in force, and the veterinary specialists of the state veterinary services for frontiers and transport – also with uniforms.

## V. STATE VETERINARY SURVEY

### Article 16. The Goals of the State Veterinary Survey

The main goal of the state veterinary survey, implemented by the state veterinary service, shall be the control over the observance of the requirements of the veterinary Charter, the provisions of the present Law and the normative acts, adopted in accordance with it, regarding the matters of the veterinary activity undertaken by all physical and juridical persons.

### Article 17. The Organization and Fulfillment of the State Veterinary Survey

The organization and fulfillment of the state veterinary survey shall be assumed to the following officials:

- a) the chief of the Direction of Veterinary Medicine with the State Veterinary Inspectorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Alimentation , the chief of the state veterinary service for frontiers and transports in the republic, the main veterinary doctors of districts and towns, who are, at the same time, main state veterinary inspectors on the respective territories;
- b) the deputy of the chief and specialists of the Direction of Veterinary Medicine with the State Veterinary Inspectorate, the main veterinary epizootic doctors of districts and towns, the doctors of sector veterinary clinics, of veterinary circumscription and laboratories of sanitary veterinary expertise, chiefs of the veterinary control establishments in frontiers and transports, the veterinary control establishments in frontiers, chiefs of sections for veterinary control of the production and the commander of the veterinary policy of the departmental quarantine, who are at the same time state veterinary inspectors of the respective territories and objects.

### Article 18. Guarantees of the Officials' Activity, Exerting State Veterinary Survey



- (1) Officials, exerting state veterinary survey shall be led in their activity exclusively by the present Law and the veterinary Charter in force on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.
- (2) Any form of damming by state bodies, physical and juridical persons of the legal activity of officials, undertaking state veterinary survey shall entail the responsibility, in accordance with the legislation in force.
- (3) Bodies of the state executive power and the bodies of the local self-administration executive power shall be obliged to contribute to the fulfillment by the veterinary service of the tasks, provided by the present Law.

## VI. OBLIGATIONS OF PHYSICAL AND JURIDICAL PERSONS REGARDING THE OBSERVANCE OF THE VETERINARY CHARTER

### Article 19. Obligations of Animal Owners

Physical and juridical persons owning animals shall be obliged to:

- a) observe the sanitary veterinary and zoo-hygienic rules regarding the maintenance, feeding, carrying after, reproduction and rational exploitation of animals, as well as the requirements established by the bodies of the veterinary service;
- b) undertake sanitary veterinary actions for the prevention of infectious diseases, as well as for the treatment of sick animals, the liquidation of focuses of mass diseases and the prevention of their expansion in badly arranged courtyards and farms, hereby taking all the necessary organizational and economical measures;
- c) ensure the systematic medical examination of the personnel from the animal husbandry units, prohibiting the employment of sick persons or carrying infectious germs, transmissible to animals or able to contaminate the food products of animal origin;
- d) timely announce the veterinary service about the establishing or suspecting animal disease, needing the institution of quarantine measures, and before the veterinary doctor arrives – to isolate sick animals, dead or depending on necessity butchered ones, and not to admit the usage or sales of the meat or of other products from these animals without the authorization of the state veterinary doctor;
- e) announce within the maximum delay of 24 hours the local veterinary authorities about the acquisition from other farms and localities of animals, and not to introduce the latter in common herds for at least 15-30 days;
- f) offer to the state veterinary personnel the possibility to survey the health state of animals in individual farms and to support the organization of veterinary measures;

- g) commercialize animals, products and raw materials of animal origin only with the authorization of the specialists from the territorial veterinary service;
- h) show animals in order to undertake veterinary measures (at the place and in terms established by the bodies of the territorial veterinary service);
- i) maintain in the appropriate state, with the observance of the sanitary veterinary rules, all the farms, animal husbandry complexes, courtyards, summer camps, watering places and animal pastures.

Article 20. The Obligations of Physical and Juridical Persons Regarding the Collection, Procession, Storage and Transportation of Products and Raw Materials of Animal Origin, as well as the Transportation of Animals

Physical and juridical persons shall be obliged to:

- a) entertain in strict correspondence with the sanitary veterinary rules the places of procession and storage of the products and raw materials of animal origin, of means of transportation of the products and raw materials of animal origin;
- b) strictly observe the sanitary veterinary and other requirements of rules in force regarding the collection, loading, unloading and transportation of animals, products and raw material of animal origin.

VII. ACTIONS OF THE STATE VETERINARY SERVICE IN CASES OF DEPICTING DISEASES AND ZOOANTHROPONOSES, NEEDING THE INSTITUTION OF QUARANTINE MEASURES

Article 21. The Way of Information in All Cases of Depicting of Diseases, Needing the Institution of Quarantine Measures

In the case of depicting animals with diseases, needing the institution of quarantine measures (in accordance with the special register), the veterinary specialists shall be obliged to immediately inform the hierarchically higher authorities of the veterinary service in an ascending order.

Article 22. The Order of the Institution and Raising of Quarantine Measures

On the basis of the written recommendation of the state district, city, republican veterinary service, the corresponding bodies of the local self-administration shall adopt the decision on the institution of quarantine measures for the liquidation of the contaminating focus. After its liquidation and the accomplishment of the final complex of sanitary veterinary actions, the raising of

quarantine measures in the same order, in which they were instituted shall take place.

Article 23. The Actions of the State Veterinary Service in Case of  
Depicting  
Zooanthroponoses

In case of depicting common to men and animals diseases, the state veterinary service of the respective territory shall inform the sanitary epidemiological service and, together with it, elaborate and undertake appropriate measures of treatment, prevention of the expansion and liquidation of diseases.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
INFRINGEMENT OF VETERINARY LEGISLATION

Article 24. Fine Sanctions

- (1) For the infringement of the requirements of the veterinary Charter, of the present Law or of normative acts, adopted in accordance with it, the state veterinary inspectors shall have the right to raise fines to the physical and juridical persons in size, mentioned in art. 107 of the Code on administrative contraventions.
- (2) The financial means, taken as fines, shall be used for the consolidation of the technical and material basis of the state veterinary service.

IX. INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS

Article 25. International Contracts on Problems Related to Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Medicine, Import and Export of Animals, Products and Raw Materials of Animal Origin

If international contracts regarding animal husbandry, veterinary medicine, import and export of animals, products and raw materials of animal origin matters, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party, establish other rules than the ones, provided by the present Law, the rules of the international contract shall be applied.

The President of the Republic of Moldova                      MIRCEA SNEGUR

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