

# VETERINARIANS ACT

Wholly Amended by Act No. 2739, Dec. 26, 1974

Amended by Act No. 3441, Apr. 13, 1981

Act No. 4747, Mar. 24, 1994

Act No. 5153, Aug. 8, 1996

Act No. 5153, Dec. 13, 1997

Act No. 5454, Dec. 13, 1997

Act No. 5815, Feb. 5, 1999

Act No. 5953, Mar. 31, 1999

Act No. 6570, Dec. 31, 2001

Act No. 6611, Jan. 14, 2002

Act No. 7546, May 31, 2005

Act No. 8181, Jan. 3, 2007

Act No. 8852, Feb. 29, 2008

Act No. 9847, Dec. 29, 2009

Act No. 9950, Jan. 25, 2010

Act No. 10310, May 25, 2010

Act No. 10888, Jul. 21, 2011

Act No. 10945, Jul. 25, 2011

Act No. 11005, Aug. 4, 2011

Act No. 11354, Feb. 22, 2012

Act No. 11690, Mar. 23, 2013

Act No. 11957, Jul. 30, 2013

Act No. 12432, Mar. 18, 2014

Act No. 13028, Jan. 20, 2015

Act No. 14482, Dec. 27, 2016

Act No. 16546, Aug. 27, 2019

Act No. 16982, Feb. 11, 2020

Act No. 17091, Mar. 24, 2020

Act No. 17274, May 19, 2020

Act No. 17472, Aug. 11, 2020



## CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1 (Purpose)

The purpose of this Act is to contribute to the promotion of animal health, the development of the livestock industry and the improvement of public sanitation by prescribing necessary matters concerning functions of veterinarians and veterinary business.

### Article 2 (Definitions)

The definitions of the terms used in this Act are as follows: <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>

1. The term "veterinarian" means a person in charge of veterinary business, who has obtained a license from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
2. The term "animals" means cattle, horses, swine, sheep, rabbits, cats, birds, honeybees, aquatic animals and other animals prescribed by Presidential Decree;
3. The term "animal diagnostic and treatment business" means a business diagnosing and treating animals (including an autopsy of an animal; hereinafter the same shall apply) or preventing animal diseases;
- 3-2. The term "animal health technician" means a person who engages in the business of caring animals or assisting the treatment of animals in a veterinary hospital under the guidance of a veterinarian and is accredited by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
4. The term "veterinary hospital" means a medical institution where animal diagnostic and treatment business is conducted, which has been reported pursuant to Article 17.

### Article 3 (Duties)

The duties of a veterinarian is diagnosing and treating animals, improving animal health, and sanitary inspection of livestock products.

## CHAPTER II VETERINARIANS

### Article 4 (Licenses)

A person who intends to be a veterinarian shall pass a national examination for veterinarians pursuant to Article 8 and then obtain a license from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

### Article 5 (Grounds for Disqualification)

Any of the following persons shall be disqualified as a veterinarian: <Amended on Jan. 25, 2010; May 25, 2010; Aug. 4, 2011; Mar. 18, 2014; Aug. 27, 2019>

1. A mental patient prescribed in subparagraph 1 of Article 3 of the Act on the Improvement of Mental Health and the Support for Welfare Services for Mental Patients: Provided, That this shall not apply to a person recognized by a mental health specialist as being capable of performing duties as a veterinarian;
2. A person under adult guardianship or limited guardianship;
3. A person addicted to narcotics, marijuana, or any other psychotropic drug: Provided, That this shall not apply to a person recognized by a mental health specialist as being capable of performing duties as a veterinarian;
4. A person who was sentenced to imprisonment or more severe punishment, in violation of this Act, the Act on the Prevention of Contagious Animal Diseases, the Livestock Products Sanitary Control Act, the Animal Protection Act, the Medical Service Act, the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act, the Food Sanitation Act or the Narcotics Control Act and in whose cases the execution thereof has not been completed or exempted (including where the execution is deemed to have been completed).

#### **Article 6 (Registration of Licenses)**

- (1) When the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs issues a license pursuant to Article 4, he/she shall register matters on the license in the license register and issue a license certificate. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*
- (2) A license certificate issued pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not be lent to, or borrowed from, another person; and no assistance shall be given for such lending or borrowing. *<Amended on Feb. 11, 2020>*
- (3) Matters necessary for the registration of a license and the issuance of a license certificate shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

#### **Article 7 Deleted.** *<Mar. 24, 1994>*

#### **Article 8 (National Examination for Veterinarians)**

- (1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall conduct a national examination for veterinarians each year. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*
- (2) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall conduct a national examination for veterinarians with respect to veterinary science necessary for the diagnosis and treatment of animals, and knowledge and functions related to public sanitation to be retained by a veterinarian.
- (3) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may entrust the management of a national examination for veterinarians pursuant to paragraph (1) to any relevant specialized institution deemed capable of managing the examination, as prescribed by Presidential Decree. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*
- (4) Matters necessary for the conduct of a national examination for veterinarians shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

### **Article 9 (Qualifications for Examination)**

(1) A person qualified to apply for a national examination for veterinarians shall be any of the following persons who does not fall under any subparagraph of Article 5: <Amended on Feb. 22, 2012; Mar. 23, 2013>

1. A person who graduated from a college specializing in veterinary science (including the department of veterinary science in a college within which the same department is established) and has obtained a bachelor's degree in veterinary science. In such cases, this shall include any person who is to graduate from a college and to obtain a bachelor's degree in veterinary science within six months;

2. A person who graduated from a school (referring to a school meeting standards for recognition determined and publicized by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) falling under the former part of subparagraph 1 in a foreign country and obtained a veterinary license of such country.

(2) Where a person falling under the latter part of paragraph (1) 1 fails to obtain a bachelor's degree in veterinary science in the relevant period, he/she shall be deemed disqualified to apply for the examination from the beginning.

### **Article 9-2 (Cheating by Examinees)**

(1) A person who applies for a national examination for veterinarians pursuant to Article 8 by unlawful means or who cheats on a national examination for veterinarians shall be suspended from the examination, or his/her passing of the examination shall be nullified.

(2) A person who is suspended from a national examination for veterinarians or his/her passing of the examination is nullified pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not be eligible to apply for the successive two national examinations for veterinarians pursuant to Article 8 thereafter.

### **Article 10 (Prohibition on Unlicensed Diagnosis and Treatment)**

No person who is not a veterinarian shall diagnose and treat animals: Provided, That this shall exclude cases where a person who has obtained a license for aquatic disease controller pursuant to Article 37-2 of the Aquatic Life Disease Control Act diagnoses and treats aquatic animals in accordance with the same Act, and other diagnosis and treatment prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Amended on Jul. 21, 2011>

### **Article 11 (Prohibition on Refusal of Diagnosis and Treatment)**

Where a veterinarian who conducts animal diagnostic and treatment business is requested to diagnose and treat an animal, he/she shall not refuse such request without justifiable grounds.

### **Article 12 (Medical Certificates, etc.)**

(1) No veterinarian shall issue a medical certificate, death certificate, certificate or prescription (including prescriptions prepared in an electric document with a digital signature prescribed by the Digital Signature Act: hereinafter the same shall apply), and prescribe or administer animal drugs (hereinafter referred to as

"animal drugs subject to prescription") under Article 85 (6) of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act unless the veterinarian directly diagnoses and treats animals or conducts a postmortem examination: Provided, That where a veterinarian who has diagnosed and treated animals or conducted a postmortem examination is unable to issue a medical certificate, death certificate or certificate in extenuating circumstances, another veterinarian who works with the same veterinary hospital may issue such certificate in accordance with the medical records, etc. <Amended on Feb. 22, 2012; Aug. 27, 2019>

(2) A death certificate to be issued for an animal that has died during treatment pursuant to paragraph (1) may be issued by another veterinarian.

(3) When a veterinarian receives a request to issue a medical certificate, death certificate, certificate or prescription on an animal he/she has diagnosed and treated, or examined, he/she shall not refuse to issue such certificate without just cause. <Amended on Feb. 22, 2012>

(4) Forms of, items to be mentioned in and other matters necessary for medical certificates, death certificates, certificates or prescriptions under paragraphs (1) through (3) shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Newly Inserted on Feb. 22, 2012; Mar. 23, 2013>

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a full-time veterinarian employed by a factory farm reported to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and a full-time veterinarian employed by a zoo or an aquarium registered pursuant to Article 3 (1) or the Act on the Management of Zoos and Aquariums may issue prescriptions of animal drugs subject to prescription for the purpose of administering animal drugs to animals in the relevant farm, zoo, or aquarium. In such cases, the scope of full-time veterinarians, methods for reporting, methods for the issuance and preservation of prescriptions, preparation and reporting of medical records, education, matters to be observed, and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Newly Inserted on Feb. 22, 2012; Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019; May 19, 2020>

#### **Article 12-2 (Issuance, etc. of Prescriptions of Animal Drugs Subject to Prescription)**

(1) A veterinarian (including a full-time veterinarian employed by a factory farm, zoo, or aquarium prescribed in Article 12 (5): hereafter in paragraph (2) the same shall apply) shall, if necessary to administer animal drugs subject to prescription to animals, issue a prescription. <Amended on Aug. 27, 2019; May 19, 2020>

(2) Where a veterinarian issues a prescription pursuant to paragraph (1), he/she shall issue the prescription through the veterinary prescription management system prescribed in Article 12-3 (1) (hereinafter referred to as the "veterinary prescription management system"): Provided, That where a veterinarian is unable to issue a prescription through the veterinary prescription management system due to computer failure, business trip or other unavoidable causes prescribed by Presidential Decree, he/she shall issue the prescription by the methods prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and register the prescription with the veterinary prescription management system within three days from the date on which the unavoidable cause disappears. <Newly Inserted on Aug. 27, 2019>

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), where a veterinarian himself/herself directly prescribes, compounds and administers an animal drug subject to prescription, he/she need not issue a prescription prescribed in paragraph (1). In such cases, he/she shall put the matters prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, such as the name, usage, dosage, etc. of the animal drug subject to prescription in the veterinary prescription management system. <Amended on Aug. 27, 2019>

(4) Forms and descriptions of prescriptions under paragraph (1) and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>

(5) When a person who compounds and sells animal drugs subject to prescription inquires of a veterinarian who has issued a prescription pursuant to paragraph (1) about the name, usage, dosage, etc. of animal drugs indicated in the prescription, the veterinarian shall immediately respond to such inquiry: Provided, That this shall not apply in any of the following cases: <Amended on Aug. 27, 2019; Feb. 11, 2020>

1. Where the veterinarian diagnoses and treats an animal that requires first-aid treatment;
2. Where the veterinarian conducts an operation on or treats an animal;
3. Where there is other justifiable grounds that does not allow the veterinarian to respond to the inquiry.

#### **Article 12-3 (Construction and Operation of Veterinary Prescription Management System)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall construct and operate a veterinary prescription management system to efficiently manage animal drugs subject to prescription.

(2) Matters necessary for the construction and operation of the veterinary prescription management system shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

#### **Article 13 (Medical Records and Autopsy Records)**

(1) A veterinarian shall keep medical records or autopsy records and shall record matters he/she has diagnosed and treated or examined and sign his/her name in such records.

(2) Matters to be stated in the medical records or autopsy records pursuant to paragraph (1), the period and method of retaining such records, and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

(3) The medical records or autopsy records pursuant to paragraph (1) may be prepared and retained in electronic form with a digital signature under the Digital Signature Act affixed.

#### **Article 14 (Reporting)**

A veterinarian shall report his/her actual conditions, employment status, etc. (including changes in his/her place of work) to the Korean Veterinary Medical Association established under Article 23, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

### **Article 15 (Protection of Diagnosis and Treatment Techniques)**

No person shall interfere with the diagnosis and treatment by a veterinarian, except matters prescribed by this Act or other Acts and subordinate statutes.

### **Article 16 (Preferential Supply of Appliances, etc.)**

A veterinarian shall have a preferential right to be supplied with appliances, medicine, other facilities and materials necessary for diagnosis and treatment.

## **CHAPTER II-2 ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS**

### **Article 16-2 (Qualifications of Animal Health Technicians)**

A person who intends to become an animal health technician shall fall into any of the following persons and obtain accreditation from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs after passing an animal health technicians' qualification examination:

1. A person who has graduated from an animal care-related department at a junior college prescribed in subparagraph 4 of Article 2 of the Higher Education Act which has obtained accreditation (referring to accreditation prescribed in Article 16-4 (1): hereafter the same shall apply in this Article) from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or a school of the same or higher level (including persons expected to graduate within six months from the date of applying for an animal health technicians' qualification examination);
2. A person who has graduated from a high school prescribed in Article 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or a person recognized to have an academic career equivalent thereto according to the statutes pertaining to elementary and secondary education (hereinafter referred to as "person recognized to have an academic career at least equal to that of a high school graduate) who has engaged in animal care-related business prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for at least one year after completing an animal care-related educational course equivalent to the educational courses of high school in a lifelong education institution prescribed in subparagraph 2 of Article 2 of the Lifelong Education Act which is accredited by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
3. A person who holds a foreign animal care-related license or qualification the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs recognizes.

### **Article 16-3 (Animal Health Technicians' Qualification Examinations)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall implement an animal health technicians' qualification examination each year.

(2) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may entrust the management of animal health technicians' qualification examinations prescribed in paragraph (1) to a relevant specialized institution recognized as having the ability to manage examinations, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(3) Where the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs entrusts the management of qualification examinations pursuant to paragraph (2), he/she may provide a budget necessary for such management.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (1) through (3), matters necessary for conducting, etc. animal health technicians' qualification examinations shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

#### **Article 16-4 (Accreditation of Training Institutions)**

(1) A school or educational institution that intends to operate an animal health technician training course (hereinafter referred to as "training institution") may obtain accreditation from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in compliance with the standards and procedures prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

(2) Where a training institution accredited pursuant to paragraph (1) falls into any of the following cases, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may cancel the accreditation, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs: Provided, That where falling under subparagraph 1, the accreditation must be canceled:

1. Where a training institution obtains accreditation by fraud or other improper methods;
2. Where a training institution falls short of the training institution accreditation standards prescribed in paragraph (1).

#### **Article 16-5 (Animal Health Technicians' Business)**

(1) Notwithstanding Article 10, an animal health technician may take care of animals or assist the treatment of animals in a veterinary hospital under the guidance of a veterinarian.

(2) Matters concerning the specific scope, limitations, etc. of business prescribed in paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

#### **Article 16-6 (Provisions to Be Applied Mutatis Mutandis)**

@Articles 5, 6, 9-2, 14, 32 (1) 1 and 3 and (3), 34 and 36 (subparagraph 3) shall apply mutatis mutandis to animal health technicians. In such cases, "veterinarian," "license" and "license certificate" shall be construed as "animal health technician," "qualification" and "certificate of qualification," respectively.

## **CHAPTER III VETERINARY HOSPITALS**

#### **Article 17 (Opening of Veterinary Hospitals)**

(1) No veterinarian shall conduct animal diagnostic and treatment business without opening a veterinary hospital under this Act.

(2) No person shall open a veterinary hospital unless he/she falls under any of the following cases:

*<Amended on Jul. 30, 2013>*

1. A veterinarian;
2. The State or a local government;
3. A corporation incorporated for the purpose of conducting animal diagnostic and treatment business (hereinafter referred to as "animal diagnostic and treatment corporation");
4. A college specializing in veterinary science (including a college within which the department of veterinary science has been established);
5. A non-profit corporation incorporated in accordance with the Civil Act or special Acts.

(3) Where a person who falls under paragraph (2) 1 through 5 intends to open a veterinary hospital, he/she shall report the opening thereof to a Special Self-Governing Province Governor, a Special Self-Governing City Mayor, or the head of a Si/Gun/autonomous Gu (hereinafter referred to as the "head of a Si/Gun"), as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. This shall also apply to cases where he/she intends to change any important matter in a report prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. *<Amended on Jul. 25, 2011; Mar. 23, 2013>*

(4) The head of a Si/Gun in receipt of a report prescribed in paragraph (3) shall review the details thereof and, if it is in compliance with this Act, accept the report. *<Newly Inserted on Aug. 27, 2019>*

(5) The standards of facilities of a veterinary hospital shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree. *<Amended on Aug. 27, 2019>*

#### **Article 17-2 (Obligation to Manage Veterinary Hospitals)**

A person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall manage the hospital on his/her own: Provided, That where he/she is unable to manage the veterinary hospital due to extenuating circumstances, he/she may appoint a manager from among veterinarians working with the a veterinary hospital and have him/her manage the same.

#### **Article 17-3 (Installation and Operation of Radiation Emitting Apparatus for Diagnosis of Animals)**

(1) A person who has opened a veterinary hospital and intends to install and operate a radiation emitting apparatus to diagnose animals (hereinafter referred to as "radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals") shall report the installation to the head of the competent Si/Gun, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. In such cases, the head of the Si/Gun shall review the details thereof and if it is in compliance with this Act, accept the report. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>*

(2) When installing and operating a radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals, a person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall observe the following matters: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Jan. 20,*

2015>

1. A person responsible for safety management shall be appointed, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
  2. Where a person responsible for safety management referred to in subparagraph 1 requests a matter required for the conduct of duty, the person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall take immediate measures unless he/she has justifiable grounds to the contrary;
  3. Where a person responsible for safety management fails to conduct the duty of safety management conscientiously, the person shall be dismissed from the position without delay and any other employee shall be appointed to the position;
  4. Other matters concerning safety management prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.
- (3) Where a person who has opened a veterinary hospital installs a radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals, he/she shall undergo regular inspections and measurement at a testing institution or measurement institution designated by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs under Article 17-5 (1), and manage the exposure to radiation of employees involved with radiation. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Jan. 20, 2015>
- (4) Necessary matters concerning the scope of, reporting on, inspection and measurement of, and management of the exposure to radiation from, a radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

#### **Article 17-4 (Installation and Operation of Special Medical Equipment for Diagnosis of Animals)**

- (1) A person who has opened a veterinary hospital and intends to install and operate medical equipment publicized by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in order to diagnose animals (hereinafter referred to as "special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals") shall register such equipment with the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>
- (2) A person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall install and operate special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals in compliance with the installation recognition standards prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>
- (3) After a person who opened a veterinary hospital has installed special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals, he/she shall obtain regular inspections for quality control from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>
- (4) No person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall use special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals disapproved as a result of a quality control inspection pursuant to paragraph (3).

### **Article 17-5 (Designation, etc. of Testing or Measurement Institutions)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may designate institutions meeting the specific requirements prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for testing apparatuses as a testing institution or measurement institution for radiation emitting apparatuses for diagnosis of animals (hereinafter referred to as "testing or measurement institution").

(2) Where a testing or measurement institution prescribed in paragraph (1) falls under any of the following cases, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may cancel the designation or order the suspension of business operations for a period not longer than six months: Provided, That where falling under subparagraphs 1 through 3, the designation must be canceled:

1. Where a testing or measurement institution obtains such designation by fraud or other improper methods;
2. Where a testing or measurement institution issues a false certificate of records on testing, etc. of radiation emitting apparatuses, etc. for diagnosis of animals intentionally or by gross negligence;
3. Where a testing or measurement institution provides testing or measurement services during the period of suspension of business operations;
4. Where a testing or measurement institution falls short of the standards for designation of testing or measurement institutions prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
5. Where a testing or measurement institution violates regulations for testing or measurement services the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs announces.

(3) Matters concerning procedures for the designation of testing or measurement institutions prescribed in paragraph (1), cancellation of designation and suspension of business operations under paragraph (2) shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

(4) Where the head of a testing or measurement institution intends to suspend or discontinue operations of the testing and measurement business, he/she shall report it to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Newly Inserted on Aug. 27, 2019>

### **Article 18 (Reporting on Suspension or Discontinuance of Business Operations)**

Where a person who opened a veterinary hospital has suspended or discontinued operations of the animal diagnostic and treatment business, he/she shall, without delay, report the suspension or discontinuance of business operations to the head of the competent Si/Gun who has jurisdiction over the veterinary hospital: Provided, That this shall not apply to cases where he/she suspends business operations for not more than 30 days.

**Article 19 Deleted.** <Mar. 31, 1999>

**Article 20 Deleted.** <Feb. 5, 1999>

**Article 20-2 (Fees for Issuance)**

(1) The upper limit of a fee for medical certificate, etc. under Articles 12 and 12-2 shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

(2) A person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall announce or publish fees for medical certificate, etc. collected from the owner or manager of animals (hereinafter referred to as "animal owner, etc."), as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>

(3) No person who has opened a veterinary hospital shall collect fees for medical certificate, etc. in excess of the amount announced and published pursuant to paragraph (2).

**Article 21 (Public Veterinarians)**

(1) In order to diagnose and treat animals in a proper manner, the head of a Si/Gun may entrust the following business affairs to a veterinarian who is running a veterinary hospital, a veterinarian who works with a veterinary hospital, or a veterinarian who works with a non-profit corporation related to stock breeding prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs: Provided, That he/she may entrust a veterinarian who works with a non-profit corporation related to stock breeding prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs with the business affairs referred to in subparagraphs 3 and 6 only: <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Feb. 11, 2020>

1. Diagnosis and treatment of animals;
2. Investigation of and research on animal diseases;
3. Preconsideration and prevention of contagious diseases of animals;
4. Medical examination of animals;
5. The promotion of animal health and management of environmental sanitation of animals;
6. Other matters instructed by the head of a Si/Gun concerning the diagnosis and treatment of animals.

(2) A veterinarian entrusted with the diagnosis and treatment of animals (hereinafter referred to as "public veterinarian") pursuant to paragraph (1) shall conduct the veterinary business so entrusted under the direction and supervision of the head of the competent Si/Gun.

**Article 22 (Allowances and Traveling Expenses of Public Veterinarians)**

(1) The head of a Si/Gun shall reimburse public veterinarian allowances and traveling expenses.

(2) The Special Metropolitan City Mayor, a Metropolitan City Mayor, Do Governor or the Governor of a Special Self-Governing Province, or the Mayor of a Special Self-Governing Province (hereinafter referred to as "Mayor/Do Governor") may reimburse some of the allowances and traveling expenses pursuant to

paragraph (1). <Amended on Jul. 25, 2011>

## CHAPTER III-2 ANIMAL DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT CORPORATIONS

### **Article 22-2 (Permission, etc. to Incorporate Animal Diagnostic and Treatment Corporations)**

(1) Any person who intends to incorporate an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation under Article 17 (2) shall prepare the articles of incorporation and other documents, and obtain permission from the Mayor/Do Governor having jurisdiction over the seat of the principal office of such corporation, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) An animal diagnostic and treatment corporation shall possess facilities necessary for a veterinary hospital that such corporation opens or the funds needed to have facilities.

(3) Where an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation intends to dispose of its property or change the articles of incorporation, it shall obtain permission from the Mayor/Do Governor.

(4) Unless a corporation is an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation under this Act, it shall not use the name of an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation or the name similar thereto.

### **Article 22-3 (Incidental Business of Animal Diagnostic and Treatment Corporations)**

(1) An animal diagnostic and treatment corporation may conduct the following incidental business in a veterinary hospital operated by the corporation in addition to the diagnosis and treatment of animals. In such cases, accounts for earnings received from incidental business shall be separate from other accounts of the animal diagnostic and treatment corporation:

1. Research and study on the diagnosis and treatment of animals or veterinary science;
2. Installation and operation of an attached parking lot under Article 19 (1) of the Parking Lot Act;
3. Business prescribed by Presidential Decree that develops and operates an animal diagnostic and treatment information system necessary for conducting animal diagnostic and treatment business.

(2) An animal diagnostic and treatment corporation which intends to conduct incidental business referred to paragraph (1) 2 may lease facilities involved in such business or entrust such business to a third party.

(3) An animal diagnostic and treatment corporation which intends to conduct incidental business pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) shall report in advance to the Mayor/Do Governor having jurisdiction over the seat of a veterinary hospital, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The same shall also apply to cases where it intends to change reported matters.

(4) A Mayor/Do Governor in receipt of a report prescribed in paragraph (3) shall review the details thereof and if it is in compliance with this Act, accept the report. <Newly Inserted on Aug. 27, 2019>

### **Article 22-4 (Application Mutatis Mutandis of the Civil Act)**

Except as otherwise prescribed by this Act, the provisions on incorporated foundations of the Civil Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to animal diagnostic and treatment corporations.

**Article 22-5 (Cancellation of Permission to Incorporate Animal Diagnostic and Treatment Corporations)**

Where an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation falls under any of the following, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or the Mayor/Do Governor may cancel his/her permission to incorporate such corporation:

1. When the corporation conducts business that is not prescribed by the articles of incorporation;
2. When the corporation fails to open a veterinary hospital within two years from the date of its incorporation;
3. When the corporation fails to open a veterinary hospital within two years after closing a former veterinary hospital it opened;
4. When the corporation violates an order issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or the Mayor/Do Governor for the purpose of supervision;
5. When the corporation conducts business other than ancillary business under Article 22-3 (1).

**CHAPTER IV KOREAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

**Article 23 (Establishment)**

(1) Veterinarians may establish the Korean Veterinary Medical Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Veterinary Medical Association") as prescribed by Presidential Decree, in order to efficiently conduct veterinary business, do research on and promote veterinary science, and establish ethics of veterinarians.

*<Amended on Jul. 25, 2011>*

(2) The Veterinary Medical Association shall be a juridical person.

(3) A veterinarian shall, by virtue of his/her office, be a member of the Veterinary Medical Association.

*<Newly Inserted on Jul. 25, 2011>*

**Article 24 (Approval for Establishment)**

Where veterinarians intend to establish the Veterinary Medical Association, its representative shall submit the articles of association and other necessary documents, as prescribed by Presidential Decree, to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and obtain approval for the establishment thereof.

*<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

**Article 25 (Branches)**

The Korea Veterinary Medical Association may establish branches in the Special Metropolitan City, a Metropolitan City, Do or Special Self-Governing Province or Special Self-Governing City, as prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Amended on Jul. 25, 2011>

**Article 26 (Application Mutatis Mutandis of the Civil Act)**

The provisions on incorporated associations of the Civil Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to matters not prescribed by this Act concerning the Veterinary Medical Association.

**Article 27 Deleted.** <Jan. 25, 2010>

**Article 28 Deleted.** <Mar. 31, 1999>

**Article 29 (Subsidization of Expenses)**

Where the State or a local government deems it necessary for the promotion of animal health and public sanitation, or entrusts the Veterinary Medical Association with veterinary business pursuant to Article 37 (3), it may subsidize, in whole or in part, expenses incurred in the operation of the Veterinary Medical Association or in the conduct of veterinary business.

## CHAPTER V SUPERVISION

**Article 30 (Guidance and Order)**

(1) Where the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Mayor/Do Governor or the head of a Si/Gun deems it necessary for policies on diagnosis and treatment of animals or deems that serious harm is caused or is likely to be caused to public sanitation, he/she may give necessary guidance and orders to veterinarians or veterinary hospitals, as prescribed by Presidential Decree. In such cases, he/she shall pay the expenses incurred by veterinarians or veterinary hospitals in relation to facilities, equipment, etc. as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, when such facilities, equipment, etc. are necessary. <Amended on Jul. 25, 2011; Mar. 23, 2013>

(2) Where a veterinary hospital violates any provision of Articles 17-3 (1) through (3) and 17-4 (1) through (3), the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or the head of the competent Si/Gun may restrict or prohibit the use of the whole or any part of its facilities, equipment, etc. for a specified period, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, or order it to correct matters it has violated. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

(3) Where the Commissioner of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency requests the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to cooperate with him/her for the prevention and treatment of a zoonosis, the latter shall comply with such request unless there is a compelling reason not to do so. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 11, 2020>

### **Article 31 (Reporting and Supervision of Business)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may require the Veterinary Medical Association to file a report on the actual conditions of its members, their employment status, etc. prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, or require a public official under his/her jurisdiction to inspect the conditions of its business and other related documents. *<Amended on Jul. 25, 2011; Mar. 23, 2013>*

(2) A Mayor/Do Governor or the head of a Si/Gun may require a veterinarian or veterinary hospital to report on the conditions of diagnosis and treatment of diseases, domestic animal disease control and veterinary business, or require a public official under his/her jurisdiction to inspect their business conditions, facilities, or medical records and autopsy records.

(3) A public official who conducts an inspection pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) shall carry a certificate indicating his/her authority and produce it to the interested persons.

### **Article 32 (Revocation of License and Suspension of Validity of License)**

(1) Where a veterinarian falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may revoke his/her license: Provided, That where he/she falls under subparagraph 1, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs shall revoke his/her license: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

1. Where he/she falls under any of the subparagraphs of Article 5;
2. Where he/she conducts veterinary business while the validity of his/her license is suspended pursuant to paragraph (2) or has been subjected to the disposition of suspension of the validity of his/her license not less than three times during the period prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
3. Where he/she lends his/her license to another person, in violation of Article 6 (2).

(2) Where a veterinarian falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may suspend the validity of his/her license for a specified period not exceeding one year, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. In such cases, he/she shall decide on matters that require judgment on diagnosis and treatment techniques based on the opinions of the relevant experts: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

1. Where he/she issues a medical certificate, death certificate, certificate or prescription by fraud or other improper means;
2. Where he/she charges a fee for diagnosis and treatment in an unlawful manner, such as forging or altering the relevant documents, etc.;
3. Where he/she violates an order pursuant to Article 30 (1) without justifiable grounds;
4. Where he/she conducts diagnosis and treatment which are not approved by clinical veterinary science;

5. Where he/she falsely announces the conferment of a degree;
  6. Where he/she does any act prescribed by Presidential Decree, such as over treatment or other acts related to the operation of a veterinary hospital.
- (3) Where a person whose license has been revoked pursuant to paragraph (1) falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may reissue his/her license: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*
1. Where a license has been revoked for any reason referred to in paragraph (1) 1, when the reason that has caused such revocation ceases to exist;
  2. Where a license has been revoked for any reason referred to in paragraph (1) 2 and 3, when two years have passed after the license was revoked.
- (4) Where a person who has opened a veterinary hospital has been subjected to the disposition of suspension of the validity of his/her license pursuant to paragraph (2) 1 or 2, the relevant veterinary hospital shall not conduct animal diagnostic and treatment business during the period of suspension of the validity of his/her license.

### **Article 33 (Suspension of Operations of Animal Diagnostic and Treatment Business)**

Where a veterinary hospital falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the head of the competent Si/Gun may order the veterinary hospital to suspend operations of the animal diagnostic and treatment business for a specified period not exceeding one year, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

1. Where the veterinary hospital fails to commence its business within three months from the date it reports the opening thereof without justifiable grounds;
2. Where the veterinary hospital has an unlicensed person conduct diagnosis and treatment;
3. Where the veterinary hospital fails to report a change pursuant to the latter part of Article 17 (3) or to report the suspension of business operations pursuant to the main sentence of Article 18;
4. Where the veterinary hospital fails to meet the standards of facilities;
5. Where the person who has opened the veterinary hospital fails to manage the veterinary hospital on his/her own or to appoint a manager of the veterinary hospital, in violation of Article 17-2;
6. Where the veterinary hospital violates an order pursuant to Article 30 (1);
7. Where the veterinary hospital violates an order to restrict or prohibit the use or fails to carry out a corrective order pursuant to Article 30 (2);
8. Where the veterinary hospital refuses, interferes with or evades the inspection of a relevant public official pursuant to Article 31 (2).

### **Article 33-2 (Imposition of Penalty Surcharges)**

(1) Where a veterinary hospital falls under any subparagraph of Article 33, the head of a Si/Gun may impose a penalty surcharge not exceeding 50 million won in lieu of the disposition of suspending

operations of the animal diagnostic and treatment business, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) Amounts of penalty surcharges, based on the types, severity, etc. of violations subject to penalty surcharges under paragraph (1) and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(3) If a person subject to a penalty surcharge under paragraph (1) fails to pay the penalty surcharge by the deadline, the head of the Si/Gun shall collect the penalty surcharge in accordance with the Act on the Collection of Local Administrative Penalty Charges. *<Amended on Mar. 24, 2020>*

## CHAPTER VI SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

### **Article 34 (Training and Education)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may require a veterinarian to receive training and education necessary to upgrade his/her qualifications. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

(2) The State or a local government may bear expenses incurred in training and education pursuant to paragraph (1).

(3) Matters necessary for training and education pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

### **Article 35 Deleted.** *<Mar. 31, 1999>*

### **Article 36 (Hearings)**

Where the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or the head of a Si/Gun intends to conduct any of the following dispositions, he/she shall hold a hearing: *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Jan. 20, 2015>*

1. Cancellation of designation of a testing or measurement institution prescribed in Article 17-5 (2);
2. An order to prohibit the use of facilities, equipment, etc. pursuant to Article 30 (2);
3. Revocation of a veterinarian's license pursuant to Article 32 (1).

### **Article 37 (Delegation and Entrustment of Authority)**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may delegate part of his/her authority under this Act to a Mayor/Do Governor, as prescribed by Presidential Decree. *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>*

(2) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may entrust administrative agencies specializing in veterinary services with registration business prescribed in Article 17-4 (1), business to inspect quality control under Article 17-4 (3), business to designate testing or measurement institutions under Article 17-5 (1), business to cancel designation under Article 17-5 (2) and business concerning reports on the suspension or discontinuance of business operations under Article 17-5 (4). *<Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Jan. 20, 2015; Aug. 27, 2019>*

(3) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and a Mayor/Do Governor may partly entrust the Veterinary Medical Association established pursuant to Article 23 with business affairs on veterinary

medicine (including taking care of animals and assisting the treatment of animals) and public sanitation, as prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Amended on Jul. 25, 2011; Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>

### **Article 38 (Fees)**

Any of the following persons shall pay a fee, as prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs: <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013; Aug. 27, 2019>

1. A person who intends to have his/her veterinarian's license certificate or animal health technician's qualification certificate re-issued pursuant to Article 6 (including cases where Article 6 applies mutatis mutandis in Article 16-6);
2. A person who intends to apply for a national examination for veterinarians pursuant to Article 8;
- 2-2. A person who intends to apply for an animal health technicians' qualification examination prescribed in Article 16-3;
3. A person who intends to report the opening of a veterinary hospital pursuant to Article 17 (3);
4. A person who intends to re-obtain a veterinarian's license or animal health technician's qualification pursuant to Article 32 (3) (including cases where Article 32 (3) applies mutatis mutandis in Article 16-6).

## **CHAPTER VII PENTALTY PROVISIONS**

### **Article 39 (Penalty Provisions)**

(1) Any of the following persons shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than two years or by a fine not exceeding 20 million won, or by such imprisonment and fine cumulatively: <Amended on Jul. 30, 2013; Dec. 28, 2016; Aug. 27, 2019; Feb. 11, 2020>

1. A person who lends his/her veterinarian's license certificate or animal health technician's qualification certificate to another person or borrow a veterinarian's license certificate or animal health technician's qualification certificate from another person, or assist such lending or borrowing, in violation of Article 6 (2) (including cases where Article 6 (2) applies mutatis mutandis pursuant to Article 16-6);
2. A person who diagnoses and treats an animal in violation of Article 10;
3. A person who establishes a veterinary hospital in violation of Article 17 (2).

(2) Any of the following persons shall be punished by a fine not exceeding three million won: <Newly Inserted on Jul. 30, 2013>

1. An animal diagnostic and treatment corporation that disposes of its property or changes the articles of incorporation without obtaining permission, in violation of Article 22-2 (3);
2. A person who uses the name of an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation or the name similar thereto in violation of Article 22-2 (4).

**Article 40 Deleted.** <Mar. 31, 1999>

**Article 41 (Administrative Fines)**

(1) Any of the following persons shall be subject to an administrative fine not exceeding five million won:

1. A person who refuses a request for diagnosis and treatment of an animal without just cause in violation of Article 11;
2. A person who engages in animal diagnostic and treatment business without having opened a veterinary hospital in violation of Article 17 (1);
3. A person who uses special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals disapproved in violation of Article 17-4 (4).

(2) Any of the following persons shall be subject to an administrative fine not exceeding one million won:

<Amended on Jul. 25, 2011; Feb. 22, 2012; Jul. 30, 2013; Jan. 20, 2015; Aug. 27, 2019>

1. A person who issues a medical certificate, death certificate, certificate or prescription by false or other unjust methods in violation of Article 12 (1);
- 1-2. A person who prescribes or administers animal drugs subject to prescription without directly diagnosing and treating an animal in violation of Article 12 (1);
- 1-3. A person who refuses to issue a medical certificate, death certificate, certificate or prescription without just cause in violation of Article 12 (3);
- 1-4. A veterinarian who issues a prescription without a report in violation of Article 12 (5);
- 1-5. A person who fails to issue a prescription in violation of Article 12-2 (1);
- 1-6. A person who issues a prescription without undergoing the veterinary prescription management system in violation of the main sentence of Article 12-2 (2);
- 1-7. A person who fails to register prescriptions with the veterinary prescription management system within three days after the unavoidable cause disappears in violation of the proviso to Article 12-2 (2);
- 1-8. A person who fails to put the name, usage, dosage, etc. of animal drugs subject to prescription in the veterinary prescription management system or falsely puts them in the system in violation of the latter part of Article 12-2 (3);
2. A person who fails to have medical records or autopsy records or to record matters diagnosed and treated or examined, or records such matters falsely, in violation of Article 13;
- 2-2. A person who fails to file a report pursuant to Article 14 (including cases where Article 14 applies mutatis mutandis pursuant to Article 16-6);
3. A person who has established a veterinary hospital fails to manage the veterinary hospital or to appoint a manager of the veterinary hospital in violation of Article 17-2;
4. A person who installs and operates a radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals without reporting pursuant to the former part of Article 17-3 (1);
- 4-2. A person who violates the matters to be observed in Article 17-3 (2);

5. A person who fails to undergo regular inspections and measurement, or to manage the exposure to radiation of employees involved with radiation pursuant to Article 17-3 (3);
  6. A person who fails to report the business suspension or closure of a veterinary hospital in violation of Article 18;
  - 6-2. A person who collects fees in excess of the amount announced or published in violation of Article 20-2 (3);
  - 6-3. A person who fails to submit a report in violation of Article 22-3 (3);
  7. A person who violates an order to restrict or prohibit the use, or fails to comply with a corrective order pursuant to Article 30 (2);
  8. A person who fails to submit a report or submits a false report, or refuses, interferes with or evades the inspection of a relevant public official pursuant to Article 31 (2);
  9. A person who fails to receive training and education pursuant to Article 34 (including cases where Article 34 applies mutatis mutandis pursuant to Article 16-6) without just cause.
- (3) The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, a Mayor/Do Governor or the head of a Si/Gun shall impose and collect administrative fines pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2), as prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Amended on Mar. 23, 2013>

ADDENDA <Act No. 2739, Dec. 26, 1974>

- (1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force 60 days after the date of its promulgation.
- (2) (Transitional Measures) A person who has acquired a veterinarian's license as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed a person who has acquired a veterinarian's license in accordance with this Act; a person who has the qualifications for a veterinarian in accordance with the previous provisions shall apply for a veterinarian's license within six months from the enforcement date of this Act, and a person who fails to apply for a veterinarian's license within that period shall be deemed disqualified to be a veterinarian.
- (3) (Transitional Measures) A person who has passed a preliminary examination for veterinarians as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed qualified to apply for a national examination for veterinarians in accordance with this Act.
- (4) (Transitional Measures) A person who is conducting domestic animal diagnostic and treatment business as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed a person who has registered the opening of, or obtained a permit for the opening of, a veterinary hospital in accordance with this Act: Provided, That where he/she fails to meet the standards of facilities in accordance with this Act, he/she shall cause the veterinary hospital to meet the standards of facilities in accordance with this Act within six months from the enforcement date of this Act, and where he/she violates the standards, the competent Do Governor may revoke the registration of or permit for the opening.
- (5) (Transitional Measures) A person who has been appointed as a public veterinarian as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed a public veterinarian in accordance with this Act.

(6) (Transitional Measures) The Central Veterinary Medical Association as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed the Veterinary Medical Association in accordance with this Act.

(7) (Transitional Measures) The representative of the Central Veterinary Medical Association as at the time this Act enters into force shall amend the articles of association in accordance with this Act within three months from the date this Act enters into force and obtain a permit from the Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

ADDENDA <Act No. 3441, Apr. 13, 1981>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force 30 days after the date of its promulgation.

**Articles 2 through 8 Omitted.**

**Article 9 (Transitional Measures Following Amendments to the Veterinarians Act)**

(1) A person who has registered a veterinary hospital in accordance with Article 17 (3) of the Veterinarians Act before amended as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed to have reported the veterinary hospital in accordance with this Act. The same shall also apply to a person whose application for registration is pending.

(2) The previous provisions shall apply to acts done before this Act enters into force for the purpose of penal provisions.

**Articles 10 through 15 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 4747, Mar. 24, 1994>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

**Article 2 (Transitional Measures concerning Qualifications to Apply for National Examination for Veterinarians)**

Notwithstanding the amended provisions of subparagraph 1 of Article 9, a person who entered a college before this Act enters into force has majored in veterinary science and obtained a bachelor's degree in veterinary science, he/she may apply for a national examination for veterinarians.

**Article 3 (Transitional Measures concerning Report)**

A veterinary hospital affiliated with a college that has opened the veterinary hospital with a permit issued by the competent Mayor/Do Governor as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed to have reported to the Mayor/Do Governor pursuant to this Act.

**Article 4 (Transitional Measures concerning Application of Penal Provisions)**

The previous provisions shall apply to acts done before this Act enters into force for the purpose of penal provisions.

#### **Article 5 (Citation of this Act by Other Acts)**

Where any provision of the previous Veterinarians Act has been cited by other Acts and subordinate statutes as at the time this Act enters into force, if there are the provision corresponding thereto in this Act, the relevant provision of this Act shall be deemed to have been cited in lieu of the previous provision.

ADDENDA <Act No. 5153, Aug. 8, 1996>

#### **Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on the date the Presidential Decree on the organization of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and the Korea Coast Guard enters into force pursuant to the amended provisions of Article 41, within 30 days after the date of its promulgation.

#### **Articles 2 through 4 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 5453, Dec. 13, 1997>

#### **Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on January 1, 1998. (Proviso Omitted.)

#### **Article 2 Omitted.**

ADDENDUM <Act No. 5454, Dec. 13, 1997>

This Act shall enter into force on January 1, 1998. (Proviso Omitted.)

ADDENDA <Act No. 5815, Feb. 5, 1999>

- (1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)  
(2) Omitted.

ADDENDA <Act No. 5953, Mar. 31, 1999>

- (1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force three months after the date of its promulgation: Provided, That the amended provisions of Article 9 shall enter into force on January 1, 2002.  
(2) (Transitional Measures concerning Persons who have Obtained Permit for Opening) A non-profit corporation that has opened a veterinary hospital with a permit issued by the competent Mayor/Do Governor pursuant to the previous provisions as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed to have reported to the Do Governor pursuant to the amended provisions of Article 17 (3).

(3) (Transitional Measures concerning Veterinary Medical Association) The veterinary medical association established under the previous provisions as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed the Veterinary Medical Association under this Act.

(4) (Transitional Measures concerning Qualifications to Apply for National Examination for Veterinarians) The previous provisions shall apply to the qualifications for applying for national examinations for veterinarians of persons who have acquired a bachelor's degree in veterinary science at a foreign college or university the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs recognizes pursuant to former subparagraph 2 of Article 9 before December 31, 2001 or students majoring in veterinary science at the relevant college or university as of December 31, 2001. <Newly Inserted by Act No. 6570, Dec. 31, 2001; Act No. 16546, Aug. 27, 2019>

ADDENDA <Act No. 6570, Dec. 31, 2001>

(1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation: Provided, That the amended provisions of paragraph (4) of Addenda to the Veterinarians Act (Act No. 5953) shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

(2) (Transitional Measures concerning Report on Opening of Veterinary Hospitals) A person who has reported the opening of a veterinary hospital to the competent Do Governor in accordance with the previous provisions as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed a person who has reported the opening of the veterinary hospital in accordance with the amended provisions of Article 17 (3).

ADDENDA <Act No. 6611, Jan. 14, 2002>

#### **Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force one year and six months after the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

#### **Articles 2 and 4 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 7546, May 31, 2005>

(1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

(2) (Transitional Measures concerning Qualifications to Apply for National Examination for Veterinarians) The previous provisions shall apply to the qualifications to apply for a national examination for veterinarians of a person who falls under any of the following subparagraphs as at the time this Act enters into force:

1. A person who has the qualifications to apply for a national examination for veterinarians in accordance with the previous provision of subparagraph 2 of Article 9;

2. A person who has graduated with a major in veterinary science and obtained a bachelor's degree in veterinary science from a foreign university (including the department of veterinary science in a college within which it is established);

3. A person who is in a foreign university, majoring in veterinary science.

(3) (Transitional Measures concerning Commissioning of Public Veterinarians) A commissioning made by a Mayor/Do Governor in accordance with the previous provisions of Article 21 of this Act as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed a commissioning made by a Mayor/Do Governor in accordance with the amended provisions of Article 21 of this Act.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 8181, Jan. 3, 2007>

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 8852, Feb. 29, 2008>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

**Articles 2 through 7 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 9847, Dec. 29, 2009>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation.

**Articles 2 through 22 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 9950, Jan. 25, 2010>

(1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation.

(2) (Transitional Measures concerning Report or Registration of Radiation Emitting Apparatus and Special Medical Equipment for Diagnosis of Animals) A person who opened a veterinary hospital and has installed and operated radiation emitting apparatus for diagnosis of animals under the amended provisions of Article 17-3 or special medical equipment for diagnosis of animals under the amended provisions of Article 17-4 as at the time this Act enters into force shall report such apparatus or equipment in accordance with the amended provisions of Article 17-3 (1) or register such apparatus or equipment in accordance with the amended provisions of Article 17-4 (1) within three months from the date this Act enters into force.

(3) (Transitional Measures concerning Standards for Administrative Dispositions) The previous provisions shall apply to administrative dispositions on offenses committed before this Act enters into force.

(4) (Amendments to other Acts) Omitted.

ADDENDA <Act No. 10310, May 25, 2010>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

**Articles 2 through 14 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 10888, Jul. 21, 2011>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation.

**Articles 2 through 17 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 10945, Jul. 25, 2011>

(1) (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation: Provided, That the amended provisions of Article 14, the latter part of Article 30 (1), Articles 31 (1) and 41 (2) 2-2 shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation, and the amended provisions of Articles 17 (3), 22 (2) and 25 shall enter into force on July 1, 2012.

(2) (Transitional Measures concerning the Veterinary Medical Association) The Veterinary Medical Association established under the former provisions as at the time this Act enters into force shall be deemed the Veterinary Medical Association under this Act.

ADDENDA <Act No. 11005, Aug. 4, 2011>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force one year after the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

**Articles 2 through 4 Omitted.**

ADDENDUM <Act No. 11354, Feb. 22, 2012>

This Act shall enter into force on August 2, 2013: Provided, That the amended provision of Article 9 (1) 2 shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 11690, Mar. 23, 2013>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

- (1) This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.
- (2) Omitted.

**Articles 2 through 7 Omitted.**

ADDENDA <Act No. 11957, Jul. 30, 2013>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation.

**Article 2 (Transitional Measures concerning Corporations Incorporated for Purpose of Conducting Animal Diagnostic and Treatment Business)**

Where a corporation incorporated for the purpose of conducting animal diagnostic and treatment business in accordance with the former provisions at the time this Act enters into force incorporates an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation complying with the provisions of Articles 22-2 through 22-4 by investing its assets within ten years from the enforcement date of this Act, such veterinary hospital shall be deemed a veterinary hospital under this Act: Provided, That where the corporation fails to incorporate an animal diagnostic and treatment corporation within such period, a report on the opening of the existing veterinary hospital shall be cancelled.

ADDENDA <Act No. 12432, Mar. 18, 2014>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on the date of promulgation.

**Article 2 (Transitional Measures concerning Incompetents, etc.)**

An incompetent person under adult guardianship or a person under limited guardianship under the amended provisions of subparagraph 2 of Article 5 shall include persons for whom the effect of the sentence of incompetency or quasi-incompetency is maintained under Article 2 of Addenda of the partial amendments to the Civil Act (Act No. 10429).

ADDENDUM <Act No. 13028, Jan. 20, 2015>

This Act shall enter into force three months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDUM <Act No. 14482, Dec. 27, 2016>

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 16546, Aug. 27, 2019>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation: Provided, That the amended provisions of Articles 5, 17, 17-3, 20-2 and 22-3 and paragraph (4) of Addenda of the partially amended Veterinarians Act (Act No. 5953) shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation, and the amended provisions of subparagraph 3-2 of Article 2, and Articles 16-2 through 16-6, 38 and 39 (1) 1 shall enter into force two years after the date of its promulgation.

**Article 2 (Special Cases concerning Application for Animal Health Technicians' Qualification Examinations)**

Where any of the following persons completes a practical course prescribed by Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in a training institution accredited pursuant to the amended provisions of Article 16-4 (1) as at the time the amended provisions of Article 16-2 enter into force pursuant to the proviso to Article 1 of Addenda, he/she may apply for an animal health technicians' qualification examination, notwithstanding the amended provisions of Article 16-2:

1. A graduate who completes an animal care-related educational course at a junior college prescribed in subparagraph 4 of Article 2 of the Higher Education Act or at a school of the same or higher level;
2. A person who has engaged in animal care-related business at a veterinary hospital for at least one year after graduating from a junior college prescribed in subparagraph 4 of Article 2 of the Higher Education Act or a school of the same or higher level (including cases recognized to have an academic career of the same or higher level) (limited to persons who can prove the fact that he/she has worked by means of labor contract prescribed by the Labor Standards Act or by the acquisition of eligibility to become a workplace-based insured person of the National Pension prescribed by the National Pension Act);
3. A person recognized to have an academic career equal to that of a high school graduate who has engaged in animal care-related business at a veterinary hospital for at least three years (limited to persons who can prove the fact that he/she has worked by means of labor contract prescribed by the Labor Standards Act or by the acquisition of eligibility to become a workplace-based insured person of the National Pension prescribed by the National Pension Act).

**Article 3 (Preparations for Accreditation of Animal Health Technician Training Institutions)**

The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs may, if necessary for the enforcement of this Act, accredit training institutions pursuant to the amended provisions of Article 16-4 (1) before the enforcement date of the amended provisions of Article 16-4 prescribed in the proviso to Article 1 of Addenda. In such cases, the accreditation shall take effect on the enforcement date of the amended provisions of Article 16-4 prescribed in the proviso to Article 1 of the Addenda.

ADDENDA <Act No. 16982, Feb. 11, 2020>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation: Provided, That the amended provisions of Article 12-2 (5) 1 of the Act on the Veterinarians Act (Act No. 16546) shall enter into force on February 28, 2020; and the amended provisions of Article 21 (1) shall enter into force on the date of the promulgation.

**Article 2 (Applicability to Penalty Surcharges)**

The amended provisions of Article 33-2 shall begin to apply to an order to suspend operations of an animal diagnostic and treatment business that is issued after this Act enters into force.

**Article 3 (Transitional Measures concerning Penalty Provisions)**

In applying penalty provisions to an act conducted before this Act enters into force, the previous provisions shall apply.

ADDENDA <Act No. 17091, Mar. 24, 2020>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force on the date of its promulgation. (Proviso Omitted.)

**Articles 2 through 5 Omitted.**

ADDENDUM <Act No. 17274, May 19, 2020>

This Act shall enter into force six months after the date of its promulgation.

ADDENDA <Act No. 17472, Aug. 11, 2020>

**Article 1 (Enforcement Date)**

This Act shall enter into force one month after the date of its promulgation: Provided, That ... <omitted> ..., the amendments to the statutes to be amended pursuant to Article 4 of the Addenda, which were promulgated before this Act enters into force but the enforcement dates of which have yet to arrive, shall enter into force on the enforcement date of the relevant statute.

**Articles 2 through 5 Omitted.**

Last updated : 2021-10-07

