



An act regulating the practice and licensure of veterinary technicians.

[Bill H.407](#) (Hunt)/[Bill S.277](#) (Oliveira)

- This bill will amend the Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine by adding members, appointed by the governor, who are licensed veterinary technicians.
 - The bill directs the Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine to promulgate rules and regulations to license and register veterinary technicians in Massachusetts.
 - The Board will develop and implement quality educational and practice standards for veterinary technicians within the practice of veterinary medicine. This change is needed because currently in Massachusetts, any person, with any level of experience, can work in a veterinary practice and be called a veterinary technician. This shift would not happen immediately; licensing is the first step to advancing the profession of veterinary technology.
 - The Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA), the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) support this bill.
 - Complex and costly veterinary medical services such as inducing and monitoring anesthesia, taking radiographs, providing comprehensive nursing care, and placing intravenous and urinary catheters should be performed by educated, trained, and licensed veterinary technicians.
 - Massachusetts is one of a small number of states where state-regulated credentialing for veterinary technicians is still not required.
 - Licensure would require: 1) completing an American Veterinary Medical Association approved program of study (associate or bachelor's degree), 2) passing the Veterinary Technician National Exam, and 3) meeting continuing education requirements.
 - Four Massachusetts community colleges offer associate degree veterinary technician programs: Massasoit CC, Holyoke CC, North Shore CC, and Mount Wachusett CC. UMass Amherst-Mt. Ida is the only remaining MA four-year bachelor program.
- For more information, contact Mary Ann Walsh at MAWalsh@GovernmentalStrategies.com or 617-447-3711.

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Massachusetts Veterinary Technician Association (MVTA) is a private credentialing body for veterinary technicians in Massachusetts, representing over 1700 certified veterinary technicians in the state. Promoting and advocating for the profession of veterinary technology and veterinary nursing, its vision to be the preeminent resource for the veterinary support team in Massachusetts. <https://www.massvta.org/>