

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/15/17  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 553

By: Senator J. Cooper  
By: Representative D. Douglas

### **For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A CERTIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ENGAGE IN LIVESTOCK EMBRYO TRANSFER AND TRANSPLANT OR LIVESTOCK PREGNANCY DETERMINATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### **Subtitle**

TO PROVIDE A CERTIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ENGAGE IN LIVESTOCK EMBRYO TRANSFER OR TRANSPLANT AND LIVESTOCK PREGNANCY DETERMINATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 101, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17-101-316. Livestock embryo transfer or transplant and livestock pregnancy determination.

(a) Until July 1, 2019, the Veterinary Medical Examining Board is prohibited from investigating or prosecuting under a board rule or policy an individual technician who engages in both:

(1) Livestock embryo transfer or transplant; and

(2) Livestock pregnancy determination.

(b) Before engaging in livestock embryo transfer or transplant and livestock pregnancy determination in the state, an individual technician shall obtain a certification from the board.

(c)(1) An applicant for certification shall submit the following



information to the board with an application and application fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000):

(A)(i) One (1) letter from a licensed veterinarian who has witnessed the applicant's ability to perform livestock embryo transfer or transplant and livestock pregnancy determination on at least three (3) occasions within six (6) consecutive months.

(ii) The letter described in subdivision (c)(1)(A)(i) of this section shall include the dates that the veterinarian spent with the applicant and an endorsement certifying that the applicant is proficient in the following areas:

(a) Basic knowledge, skills, and abilities required to proficiently extract, grade, freeze, thaw, and transfer livestock embryos; and

(b) The ability to properly use ultrasound equipment in determining pregnancy status with at least ninety percent (90%) accuracy beginning at sixty (60) days of pregnancy and with at least ninety percent (90%) accuracy when identifying trimester;

(B) A record of successfully completing a qualified course taught by a livestock reproduction specialist on both livestock embryo transfer and livestock pregnancy determination;

(C) Proof that the applicant has at least fifty percent (50%) financial interest in livestock management equipment, including without limitation ultrasound equipment, microscope, embryo freezer, and other required transfer tools; and

(D) Proof of membership in either the International Embryo Transfer Society or the American Embryo Transfer Association.

(2) The board shall approve or deny certification within thirty (30) days of receiving an application.

(d)(1) A certification under this section expires after two (2) years.

(2) An individual technician shall submit a renewal application and renewal application fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to the board along with a record of completion of a continuing education course on bovine reproduction within the United States of America or Canada.

(3) The board shall approve or deny recertification within thirty (30) days of receiving a renewal application.

(e) An embryo transfer technician may only administer to livestock

*prescription drugs that have been prescribed by a licensed veterinarian who has a valid veterinary client-patient relationship.*

*/s/J. Cooper*