



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

•  
•  
•  
•  
•

The Committee on Rules (Truenow) recommended the following:

1                   **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

2

3                   Delete lines 1039 - 1075

4 and insert:

5                   570.846 Florida Food Animal and Equine Veterinary Medicine  
6                   Loan Repayment Program.—

7                   (1) PURPOSE.—To encourage specialized and qualified  
8                   veterinary professionals to practice in this state, to retain  
9                   the employment of such professionals in this state, and to  
10                   promote the care and treatment of food animals and equine  
11                   animals, there is established the Florida Food Animal and Equine



12 Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program. The purpose of the  
13 program is to authorize the department to make payments that  
14 offset loans incurred, for up to three new eligible candidates  
15 annually, for studies leading to a veterinary degree with a  
16 specialization in food animal or equine veterinary medicine.

17 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

18 (a) "Equine" means a species of animal belonging to the  
19 taxonomic family equidae, which includes horses and donkeys.

20 (b) "Food animal" means a species of animal raised for the  
21 human food supply. Food animals include cattle, swine, sheep,  
22 goat, poultry, aquaculture, and apiary species.

23 (c) "Food animal and equine veterinary medicine" means a  
24 veterinary medical practice that encompasses medical care,  
25 disease prevention, and consultation on the feeding, housing,  
26 and overall flock, herd, or equine health management.

27 (d) "Food animal or equine veterinarian" means a  
28 veterinarian working in food and equine animal veterinary  
29 medicine who focuses on the management and health of such  
30 animals and who spends a minimum of 20 hours per week on food  
31 animal species or equine animal species care and treatment.

32 (3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for the program, a  
33 candidate must have graduated from an American Veterinary  
34 Medical Association-accredited college of veterinary medicine,  
35 have received a Florida veterinary medical license, have  
36 obtained a Category II Accreditation from the United States  
37 Department of Agriculture, and be a practicing food animal or  
38 equine animal veterinarian in this state.

39 (4) FUNDING.—Subject to legislative appropriation, the  
40 department may make loan principal repayments of up to \$25,000



41 per eligible candidate per year. Loan principal repayments may  
42 be made on behalf of each eligible candidate each year for up to  
43 5 years. The department may select up to three new eligible  
44 candidates each year. All repayments are contingent upon  
45 continued proof of employment in this state as a practicing food  
46 animal or equine veterinarian.

47

48 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

49 And the title is amended as follows:

50 Delete line 124

51 and insert:

52 establishing the Florida Food Animal and Equine  
53 Veterinary