Rep. T. Lekas, Hills. 38
February 27, 2023
2023-0698h
07/08

Amendment to HB 258

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to animal chiropractors.

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 New Paragraph; New Hampshire Veterinary Practice Act; License Required and Exceptions. Amend RSA 332-B:2 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:

XI. An individual who has completed a nationally recognized animal chiropractic program as determined by the executive director in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A and in consultation with the board of veterinary medicine and the board of chiropractic examiners.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2023-0698h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill exempts individuals who have completed a nationally recognized animal chiropractic program, as determined by the executive director of the office of professional licensure and certification, from veterinary licensure requirements.

HB 258 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0239
08/05

HOUSE BILL ***258***

AN ACT establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Kelley, Hills. 32

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a certification for animal chiropractors.

- -

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

HB 258 - AS INTRODUCED

23-0239
08/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Section; Animal Chiropractor Certification. Amend RSA 332-B by inserting after section 20 the following new section:

332-B:21 Animal Chiropractor Certification.

I. Any chiropractor practicing chiropractic medicine on any animal shall meet the requirements of this section and any additional requirements set by the board of veterinarians pursuant to RSA 332-B:7-a, XVI and shall be certified by the board of veterinary medicine.

II. Before treating an animal, an animal chiropractor shall receive a referral from a veterinarian licensed under RSA 332-B. Such referral shall be oral or written and an oral referral shall be followed by a written referral filed within 7 days of the first treatment by the animal chiropractor. The written referral shall contain the following:

(a) The name of the animal;

(b) The name of the owner;

(c) A description of the animal;

(d) A veterinary diagnosis; and

(e) The referring veterinarian's signature.

III. An animal chiropractor treating an animal shall provide to the referring veterinarian:

(a) A written evaluation within 7 days after initial evaluation;

(b) Any additional progress notes every 30 days; and

(c) Notice of discharge or termination of treatment.

2 New Paragraph; Rulemaking Authority; Veterinary Practice Act; Animal Chiropractors. Amend RSA 332-B:7-a by inserting after paragraph XV the following new paragraph:

XVI. Additional criteria for the certification and continuing education requirements of animal chiropractors under RSA 316-A:3.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 8, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Executive Departments and Administration to which was referred HB 258,

AN ACT establishing a certification for animal chiropractors. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Kimberly Abare

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Executive Departments and Administration**
Bill Number:	**HB 258**
Title:	**establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.**
Date:	**March 8, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**CONSENT**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2023-0698h**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill, as amended, would permit someone who does chiropractic work on animals to do so as long as they have completed a nationally recognized animal chiropractic program. The list of such programs will be determined by the executive director of OPLC in accordance with rules adopted in consultation with the board of veterinary medicine and the board of chiropractic examiners. Animal owners will not need a referral from a veterinarian to take their animal to an animal chiropractor. The committee heard testimony that animals can have problems that cause pain that can be dealt with by animal chiropractors. Not only does requiring a referral from a vet cost money, but the committee also heard that it can take weeks to get an appointment with a vet and the animal may be in pain during that time. The committee also heard that people do not require a referral to go to a chiropractor. The committee sees no reason for an animal to require such a referral.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Kimberly Abare
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Executive Departments and Administration
HB 258, establishing a certification for animal chiropractors. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kimberly Abare for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill, as amended, would permit someone who does chiropractic work on animals to do so as long as they have completed a nationally recognized animal chiropractic program. The list of such programs will be determined by the executive director of OPLC in accordance with rules adopted in consultation with the board of veterinary medicine and the board of chiropractic examiners. Animal owners will not need a referral from a veterinarian to take their animal to an animal chiropractor. The committee heard testimony that animals can have problems that cause pain that can be dealt with by animal chiropractors. Not only does requiring a referral from a vet cost money, but the committee also heard that it can take weeks to get an appointment with a vet and the animal may be in pain during that time. The committee also heard that people do not require a referral to go to a chiropractor. The committee sees no reason for an animal to require such a referral. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: HB 258 Date: 1/19/23

Committee: ED+A

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Nick Hubbard	PO Box 973, Dover	(928) 350-0851			X

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 258

BILL TITLE: **establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.**

DATE: **January 19, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **306-308** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **1:30 pm**

Time Adjourned: **2:13 pm**

Committee Members: Reps. C. McGuire, Simon, Sirois, T. Lekas, Bailey, Santonastaso, True, T. Dolan, Abare, Gerhard, Grote, P. Schmidt, Schuett, O'Brien, F. Davis, Fitzpatrick and S. Gould

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. D. Kelley

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Kelley: See enclosed amendmant to HB258. The original HB258 came back the complete opposite of what she wants to accomplish. Wants to
eliminate the need for referral for animal chiropractic care. Wants to eliminate the required supervision of a vet for a chirpractor to
care for an animal. At the moment the NH Vet Board wants control over animal chiropractic.

Melissa Ojala: Strongly in favor of HB258. Was having an issue with her dog and by the advice of Rep. Kelley, she took her dog to a chiropractor. Two visits and
her dog was cured.

***Angela Ferrari** (President - Dog Owners of the Granite State)*: commends Rep. Kelley for the amendmant for HB258. In favor of HB258 including the amendmant.
Explains how eliminating the requirement for a referral will help free up the the backed up veterinary clinics.

Diane Richardson: *****See enclosed written testimony.*****

Kurt Ehrenberg (State Director - Human Society of United States): In favor of removing the referral requirement for animal chiropractic care.

Simon Thomson (NH. Chiropractic Society): Not opposed to current HB258 or the amendmant. Neutral position as written.

Dr.Jane Barlow Roy (American Veterinary Association): Her association considers chiropractic medical care.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rep Shane Sirois

House Remote Testify

Executive Departments and Administration Committee Testify List for Bill HB258 on 2

Support: 0 Oppose: 6 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	S
SAWTELLE, ERICK	LEE, NH esawtelles@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	
Richardson, Diane	springfield, NH workingclasscanine@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	
Williams, Cindy	Mont Vernon, NH honeypothounds@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	
Schaefer, Rose	Newmarket, NH rosems014@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	
Haas, Amy	Nashua, NH amylouisehaas@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	
Farley, Kathy	Raymond, NH klindobes@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 258

BILL TITLE: establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.

DATE: February 10, 2023

Subcommittee Members: Reps. T. Lekas, Bailey, Abare, Goley and Wilhelm

Comments and Recommendations: Tony Lekas will contact OPLC about requiring certification - subcommittee will meet to consider possible amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Tony Lekas
Subcommittee Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 258

BILL TITLE: establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.

DATE:

Subcommittee Members: Reps. T. Lekas, Bailey, Abare, Goley and Juliet. Smith

Comments and Recommendations:

Simon Thompson, State Chiropractors. Maybe neutral on OPLC amendment

Continued to anther time

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr)
(Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr)
(Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. _____
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 258

BILL TITLE: (New Title) relative to animal chiropractors.

DATE: March 8, 2023

Subcommittee Members: Reps. T. Lekas, Abare, Bailey, Goley and Juliet Smith

Comments and Recommendations:

MOTIONS: **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Moved by Rep. T. Lekas	Seconded by Rep. Goley	AM Vote: 3-0

Amendment # 2023-0698h

Moved by Rep. T. Lekas	Seconded by Rep. Goley	Vote: 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Tony Lekas
Subcommittee Clerk

Dog Owners of the Granite State
Protecting the interests of NH pet owners since 1991

January 19, 2023

Chairwoman Carol McGuire and Members of the House Executive Departments and Administration Committee –

I am writing on behalf of Dog Owners of the Granite State (D.O.G.S.) to thank you for your consideration of HB 258, *An act establishing a certification for animal chiropractors*. On behalf of our membership of responsible local pet owners and breeders, D.O.G.S. respectfully **opposes** this bill as written.

> *D.O.G.S. is an American Kennel Club affiliated non-profit organization founded in 1991 to represent the interests of all pet owners in New Hampshire. Our membership includes a vibrant and active community of specialty breed clubs, all breed kennel clubs, dog and cat breeders, veterinarians, mushers, hunters, and livestock guardian dog owners.*

HB 258 would create a requirement for animal chiropractors to be certified, while also requiring veterinarians to provide referrals for the use of such chiropractors. Additionally, chiropractors would be required to report back to veterinarians.

Question: What is the problem we are trying to solve?

We are unaware of issues that pets and pet owners are having in the animal chiropractic industry.

Question: Are we creating a solution for a non-existent problem?

We could agree that a certification process would be beneficial if there are chiropractors practicing without such certifications.

However, romans II and III in this bill create unnecessary steps and will likely have unintended consequences.

Unintended Consequences: The vet industry is understaffed and the ability to obtain an appointment for general care or emergencies have extended lead times, sometimes upwards of 6 months. Now add in every pet, who currently, or may need to see a chiropractor to require a vet appointment to obtain a referral to do so. This will create further burdens on the industry and delays in pets receiving the care that they need (chiropractic work) on top of pets with other needs having their appointments delayed due to the increase in appointments for chiropractic referrals.

Question: Do human chiropractors require referrals from a primary care physician or other doctor?

No, no they do not.

In discussions with the bill sponsor, Rep. Diane Kelley, the original bill goes beyond the original intentions of the bill.

Again, thank you for your consideration of HB 258. We hope that you will vote this bill **Inexpedient to Legislate**.

Sincerely,

Angela Ferrari

Angela Ferrari, President,
Dog Owners of the Granite State

Hello my name is Diane Richardson. I am a dog breeder, trainer, working dog handler, former groomer and former horse barn manager

Hb258 addressing animal chiropractors deeply concerns me

IF the bill sponsor submits the ammendment she has mentioned and you pass that amendment, then I will support the bill.

However, as introduced I oppose the bill because sections II and III are totally unworkable for the below reasons;

1- most practitioner veterinarians are anti or ambivalent towards alternative care modalities and would almost never issue a referral

2- a human needs no dr referral to see a chiropractor and the chiropractors almost never need to send report to human dr

3- veterinary offices are so overextended and understaffed that even getting an appt for a serious issue is difficult, never mind an appt to convince them to issue a Chiropractor referral.
I had to make my older dogs spay appt SEVEN months out

4- a huge % of horse and dog owners who compete in sports utilize chiropractors at least on occasion and for many it's a regular thing. The referral and report back requirement would only further over stretch the veterinarians in current crisis in nh

Please either kill this bill as introduced or pass the amendment eliminating sections II and III

Thank you so much

Diane Richardson
Workingclasscanine@msn.com
Springfield
603-558-9042

Diane Richardson

I oppose this bill as submitted,

Rose Schaefer

HB258 is an unnecessary and burdensome bill that adds excessive regulations to the animal chiropractor industry. Requiring a referral from a veterinarian for an animal to receive chiropractic care is unjustified and only serves to impede access to a potentially beneficial service. This bill represents a clear case of government overreach that should be opposed.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 258

BILL TITLE: establishing a certification for animal chiropractors.

DATE: March 8, 2023

LOB ROOM: 306-308

MOTIONS: **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT**

Moved by Rep. Abare	Seconded by Rep. C. McGuire	AM Vote: 20-0

Amendment # 2023-0698h

Moved by Rep. Abare	Seconded by Rep. C. McGuire	Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Shane Sirois, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/5/2023 1:25:09 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Executive Departments and Administration

Bill #: 258 Motion: AMENDMENT 2023-0698# OTPA AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 3-8-23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
McGuire, Carol M. Chairman	✓		
Simon, Matthew J. Vice Chairman	✓		
Lekas, Tony	✓		
Bailey, Glenn	✓		
Santonastaso, Matthew	✓		
True, Chris	✓		
Dolan, Tom	✓		
Abare, Kimberly L	✓		
Gerhard, Jason	✓		
Sirois, Shane A	✓		
Grote, Jaci L.	✓		
Schmidt, Peter B.	✓		
Goley, Jeffrey P.	✓		
Schuett, Dianne E.	✓		
O'Brien, Michael B.	✓		
~~Wilhelm, Matthew B.~~ SOUCY	✓		
Davis, Fred E.	✓		
Fitzpatrick, Daniel W	✓		
Gould, Sherry L	✓		
~~Smith, Juliet L~~ TREA. S EVAN	✓		
TOTAL VOTE:			

20-0
20-0