

# Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

*Ben Mickens 271-1403*

**HB 1407**, enabling veterinary technicians to provide rabies vaccinations while indirectly supervised by a veterinarian.

**Hearing Date:** April 1, 2026

**Time Opened:** 11:04 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 11:29 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Pearl, Gannon, Altschiller and Reardon

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill enables veterinary technicians to provide rabies vaccinations while indirectly supervised by a veterinarian.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Long

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**Who supports the bill:** Representative Patrick Long, Kurt Ehrenberg (Humane World for Animals), Elizabeth Robb, Cory Stone, and Diane Richardson.

**Who opposes the bill:** Jane Barlow Roy (NHVA) and Erik Sawtelle.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** No one.

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Representative Patrick Long**

- Rep. Long explained that this legislation allows veterinary technicians to administer rabies vaccines while under indirect supervision of a veterinarian.
- Rep. Long noted that other states use this model, including California and Maine, with no issues presented.

**Kurt Ehrenberg, Humane World**

- Mr. Ehrenberg expressed support for the bill.
- Mr. Ehrenberg expressed his belief that this will help provide more access to care for animals and help address costs of medical care for animals.
- Mr. Ehrenberg explained that veterinary technicians are well qualified to provide these vaccines, and it will free up time for the veterinarians.

- Further, vaccination is a crucial step to stopping rabies in animals which is also crucial for human health and wellbeing.
- Mr. Ehrenberg underlined the importance of this bill in particular to low-income families and communities.

**Senator Pearl** clarified that the bill still requires oversight from a veterinarian.

**Mr. Ehrenberg** said it does, however the veterinarian does not have to be in the room.

**Senator McGough** asked if a veterinarian technician could go to a rabies clinic without bringing their supervising veterinarian.

**Mr. Ehrenberg** stated he believed that counts as indirect supervision.

**Senator Altschiller** asked if Mr. Ehrenberg would believe that this exact issue came up when Senator Altschiller brought her dog in recently for a shot and was told she could not have both this shot and the vaccination at the same meeting, costing more as a consumer.

**Mr. Ehrenberg** stated he would and reiterated the importance of access to rabies shots for animals, both for them and for people.

#### **Summary of testimony presented in opposition:**

##### **Dr. Jane Barlow-Roy, NHVA**

- Dr. Barlow-Roy explained that New Hampshire veterinarians oppose this bill.
- Dr. Barlow-Roy stated that the definition of indirect supervision means the veterinarian is not needed in the immediate vicinity of the administrator, however, has provided instructions and created availability to be contacted.
- Dr. Barlow-Roy stated that veterinarians are concerned about giving away authority while not being in the building.
- Dr. Barlow-Roy explained that rabies clinics are regularly available and low-cost. Access to care is likely a moot-point.

**Senator McGough** asked if the bill would force any veterinarians to utilize their veterinarian technicians.

**Dr. Barlow-Roy** stated her concern wasn't immediate but more to do with potential developments down the line. For example, if a veterinarian is listed on record but not active in a facility.

**Senator Altschiller** asked if a more palatable option would be to narrow the legislation and require it to have on-site supervision.

**Dr. Barlow-Roy** stated that there may be space where direct supervision is the requirement. It could also work on a conditional requirement. This topic has been tossed around for a long time, and we believe the language must be very specific. This is why prior attempts to change this did not get off the ground.

**Dr. Barlow-Roy** said not every veterinary practice works as a brick and mortar. That's where some tricky issues start to come in.

**Neutral Information Presented:** None.

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Date Hearing Report completed: April 7, 2026