

## VETERINARY SURGEONS AMENDMENT BILL 2009

### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill will make a small amendment to the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960* to redress an inconsistency between the qualification requirements for registration as a veterinary surgeon in Western Australia and those in other Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand, where to qualify for registration the course completed must be accredited by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC).

#### **Clause 1 – Short title**

The Act will be the *Veterinary Surgeons Amendment Act 2009*.

#### **Clause 2 – Commencement**

The amendment to the Act will commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation because regulations will need to be made to make the amended provision effective.

#### **Clause 3 – Act amended**

The Act amended is the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960*.

#### **Clause 4 – Section 20 amended**

Section 20 which deals with the qualifications necessary for registration in W.A. provides, in subsection (1)(a), in relation to qualifications from an Australian university, that a person must hold “a degree, diploma or licence of competency in veterinary surgery from a university in the Commonwealth of Australia”.

The amendment will delete reference to a “university in the Commonwealth of Australia” and replace it with reference to a degree, diploma or licence of competency in veterinary surgery “prescribed, or in a class prescribed, by the regulations”.

This will allow the regulations to specify only courses accredited by the AVBC as courses that are sufficient to allow a graduate to be registered in Western Australia.