



AVMA State Legislative Update: 2022 Annual Report

As a service to assist associations in tracking current and emerging policy trends important to veterinary medicine, the AVMA Division of State Advocacy sent nearly **1,000 legislative and regulatory alerts in 2022** to state and allied veterinary medical associations. The legislation covered an array of topics including animal abuse reporting, courtroom animal advocates, continuing education, licensure of veterinary technicians, liability, loan repayment programs, non-economic damages, rabies vaccination, the scope of practice and prohibitions on procedures, and VCPR and telemedicine.

Last year, 46 state legislatures convened across the country, and with their adjournments, any unenacted legislation becomes sine die. This means it can no longer become law; however, this does not apply to **New Jersey** or **Virginia**, whose legislation carries over from even-numbered to odd-numbered years. Certain bills introduced last session in those states will still be active during the 2023 session.

For more information, please contact Madeline Brezin, Policy Analyst, AVMA Division of State Advocacy (mbrezin@avma.org).

Animal Abuse Reporting and Liability

Legislation in **Louisiana** ([LA HB 842](#)) was enacted and provides immunity from both civil liability and criminal prosecution for veterinarians and veterinary technicians for the reporting of animal cruelty in good faith. Similar legislation in **Iowa** ([IA HF 2429](#)) would have provided a veterinarian with immunity from administrative, civil, or criminal liability when, in good faith, reporting the alleged mistreatment of an animal.

Missouri's [MO SB 1182](#) would have required veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons.

Animal Disease and Vaccination

State legislatures considered legislation that would exempt an animal from rabies vaccination requirements. **Georgia's** [GA HB 1000](#) would have exempted an animal from a rabies vaccination requirement if a veterinarian determines, in writing, that rabies inoculation would

compromise the animal's health. The bill would have also exempted an animal indefinitely if a vaccine titer shows a vaccination to be medically unnecessary. Similarly, in **Virginia**, [VA HB 1074](#) would direct the Board of Health to develop an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for animals if a licensed veterinarian certifies, in writing, that a vaccine would endanger the animal based on an underlying medical factor and a titer test indicates a sufficient level of immunity to rabies.

Rabies vaccination of dogs and cats is recognized internationally as an essential element of an effective rabies control program. The AVMA strongly supports the recommendation that all dogs be currently vaccinated against rabies unless the animal is deemed medically unfit for vaccination. Although a rabies antibody titer has been correlated with prior vaccination, it has not been generally correlated with future protective immunity or an adequate immune response in dogs. As such, the AVMA opposes any bill language that would allow vaccine titers to determine whether an animal needs to be vaccinated against rabies. More information on the AVMA's Rabies policy can be found [here](#).

Cannabis

Several states considered legislation related to the use of cannabis. In **California**, [CA AB 1885](#) was championed by the **California Veterinary Medical Association**. Enacted on September 18, 2022, the new law prohibits the veterinary board from disciplining a veterinarian who recommends the use of cannabis on an animal for therapeutic or health purposes, requires the veterinary board to adopt guidelines by January 1, 2024, for veterinarians to follow up when recommending cannabis within a VCPR, and requires cannabis products intended for animals to comply with standards adopted via regulations. Similarly, [UT SB 209](#) in **Utah** clarifies that a licensed veterinarian is not prohibited from discussing the effect of cannabis on an animal with the animal's owner. And while it failed to pass in **Rhode Island**, [RI HB 7469](#) would have added domestic pets as eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.

AVMA resources and more information on the use of cannabis in pets can be found [here](#).

Courtroom Advocates

The AVMA continues to closely watch legislation that would allow for a court to appoint an advocate and whether they would utilize the legal standard of *in the interests of the animal* versus the standard of *in the interests of justice*. These are two very different standards. *In the interest of justice* includes a variety of societal interests regarding the humane treatment of animals, notions of fairness, and the interest of the owner, while *in the interest of the animal* has

often been seen and used as an attempt to require courts to apply the same types of standards as they would for a child.

Of concern, **New Jersey's** [NJ A 1965](#) would provide an advocate in criminal cases concerning animal welfare to represent the best interests of, and justice for, the animal. And [RI H 7087](#) in **Rhode Island** would have created a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal. Of less concern, **Rhode Island's** [RI SB 2227](#) and [RI HB 7678](#) would have authorized the appointment of pro bono attorneys and supervised law students to act as animal advocates in animal cruelty and abuse cases to serve the interests of justice.

Compounding

At the federal level, the Food and Drug Administration planned to begin enforcement of the [final guidance on animal drug compounding](#) (GFI #256) on October 1, 2022, but later [announced](#) that they do not plan to begin routine pharmacy inspections until April 2023. The final FDA guidance reflects changes made in response to [advocacy efforts by the AVMA](#), which included engagement and education with the FDA CVM, members of Congress, and other stakeholders on the importance of veterinarians having access to vital medications in a timely manner. The AVMA submitted nominations for bulk drug substances to the FDA based on input from AVMA members and AVMA-allied organizations and continues to gather information and make nominations on an ongoing basis. More information on the AVMA's policies and resources can be found [here](#).

Several state legislatures and veterinary medical associations continued to work on legislation related to animal drug compounding. A new law in **Arizona** ([AZ SB 1569](#)) allows licensed veterinarians to obtain compounded medications from a pharmacy and maintain these medications as office stock for administering and dispensing to patients.

Finalized regulations in **Arkansas** ([AR 007.39.22-003](#)) would update language to allow pharmacists in a Class A pharmacy or FDA-registered and Arkansas-permitted 503b outsourcing facility to compound office use products for veterinarians as allowed under new FDA Guidance. Compounded preparations maintained for office use could be dispensed to treat an immediate emergency medical need when timely access to a patient-specific supply of compounded medication is not available, no commercially available product can meet the need of the patient, lack of treatment will likely result in patient harm, and the supply does not exceed seven days.

Regulations finalized in **California** (CA 2021-1112-01) establish provisions for compounding in veterinary premises, including clearly defining the act of compounding. Veterinarians may compound preparations when there are no other human or animal drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and available that satisfy the need for the preparation. Veterinarians will be required to maintain formula documents for each compounded drug preparation, maintain written policies and procedures, establish a quality assurance program, and train and supervise any Registered Veterinary Technicians performing compounding. Veterinarians must also ensure the safety and efficacy of the compounded preparations and are prohibited from performing drug compounding when the complexity of the drug compounding exceeds the veterinarian's knowledge, skill, facilities, or available equipment. After much engagement by the **California Veterinary Medical Association**, these regulations went into effect on April 1, 2022.

In **Iowa**, the **Iowa Veterinary Medical Association** worked with the state Board of Pharmacy to update rules related to compounded preparations. IA ARC 6178C allows veterinarians who have obtained compounded preparations for office stock use to dispense compounded preparations when timely access to a patient-specific supply of compounded medication is not available, no commercially available product can meet the need of the patient, and the supply does not exceed 14 days.

Education

Passage of **Utah's** UT SB 1/UT HB 3 appropriates funds for the programming, design, and construction of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Utah State University. A bill in **West Virginia** (WV HCR 68) would have requested a formal feasibility study be conducted on the viability of establishing an accredited school of veterinary medicine in West Virginia.

Missouri's MO HB 3017 appropriates funds for the design and construction of a new veterinary laboratory at the University of Missouri.

Licensure

There was great interest in the requirements for licensure by endorsement. The AVMA's House of Delegates discussed the issue during their Winter 2022 meeting, ultimately asking that the AVMA Board of Directors examine the issue of license portability and consider what actions could help and recommending that the Board collaborate with state VMAs and other AVMA-

allied associations to understand the issues and how to best address them. The AVMA's Council on Veterinary Service is evaluating the issue.

Championed by the **New Mexico Veterinary Medical Association**, a new law in **New Mexico** ([NM HB 56](#)) lengthens temporary permits for out-of-state veterinarians working in zoos and aquariums, allowing veterinarians who work in these very specialized areas to oversee the treatment of the animals in these facilities without needing to gain a full New Mexico license.

A proposed regulation in **Oregon** ([OR OAR 875-010-0000](#)) would amend the experience requirements for Veterinarian License Applicants who are requesting a waiver of the Clinical Competency Test. Currently, five continuous years of practice immediately before the application date is required. The proposal would change this to require five of the last 10 years immediately prior to the application date.

Loan Repayment Programs

In **Arizona**, [AZ HB 2864/AZ SB 1731](#) establishes the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Program that will require recipients of the program to work for four years in an area designated by the USDA that has a shortage or is in a nonprofit, county, or municipal shelter. **Kansas'** enacted [KS HB 2605](#) increases the loan repayment amount to \$25,000 per year and adds the ability for participants to fulfill certain requirements by working in a registered veterinary premises under a licensed veterinarian if food animal patients make up at least 50% of such veterinarian's practice. And in **Maine**, [ME LD 1885 \(HP 1395\)](#) amends the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program by expanding the definition of "insufficient veterinary services" to include emergency and critical care and adding a definition of "underserved geographic region;" creating the option for veterinary students to qualify for the program by demonstrating an interest in working in underserved geographic regions of the State; increasing the maximum number of annual loan awards from 2 to 10; and, increasing the maximum loan amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to four years.

Supported by the **New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association**, legislation in **New Jersey** ([NJ S 3371](#)) would establish a veterinary medicine loan redemption program for state-licensed veterinarians with eligible qualifying loan expenses who work in underserved areas for five years and appropriate \$500,000 annually to the program.

Legislation in **Idaho** ([ID S 1344](#) and [ID S 1380](#)) would have established a loan repayment program for rural veterinarians who treat large animals.

Non-Economic Damages

For 20 years, the AVMA has been working with state VMAs and a broad coalition of groups against legislation that would allow awarding of non-economic damages in cases involving tortious injury or death to a person's pet.

In March, representatives from the AVMA and **Maryland Veterinary Medical Association** (MDVMA) testified before two different Maryland General Assembly committee hearings on the proposed expansion of non-economic damages into litigation involving pets (MD SB 815/MD HB 1375). Testimony emphasized the AVMA and MDVMA's opposition to this legislation because it will harm pets and the ability of veterinarians to provide affordable veterinary care. These bills were a response to a case in Maryland where their highest court, the Court of Appeals, said non-economic damages were not permissible in pet litigation cases. The AVMA and MDVMA also filed a legal brief in this case when it was pending before the court, expressing that such awards are bad public policy. If this legislation had become law, the potential recovery of non-economic damages would be permissible for injury or loss of an animal but prohibited for many close human relationships. Current Maryland law does not allow the recovery of non-economic damages for injury or loss of a best friend, sibling, grandparent, or other close relatives. Thanks to advocacy from the MDVMA and AVMA, MD HB 1375 was withdrawn by the sponsor.

Delaware's DE SB 258 would have allowed for non-economic damages to be considered in cases involving tortious injury or death to a person's pet. In May, the AVMA testified alongside the **Delaware Veterinary Medical Association** and other coalition stakeholders to oppose the provisions that would have allowed up to \$15,000 for the owner's emotional trauma, pain, and suffering. As a result, the bill was amended to remove the egregious provisions, which was a significant win for the profession. The enacted bill makes a person who tortiously causes an injury to, or death of, a pet while acting directly or through an animal under that person's ownership, direction, or control liable to the owner of the pet for compensatory damages. In the case of the death of a pet, "compensatory damages" includes the fair market value of the pet before death and the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care, and, in the case of an injury to a pet, the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care.

Personhood Fights for Animals

A long-awaited opinion was finally rendered in the Happy the Elephant case. The AVMA and **New York State Veterinary Medical Society** filed an amicus brief in this case that was before the **New York Court of Appeals**, which is the highest court in New York. The court ruled that

the ancient writ of habeas corpus only applies to human beings and provides a means to secure release from illegal custody. The petitioner argued that Happy the Elephant was entitled to the writ because elephants have higher cognitive abilities than most animals. The Court rejected that argument stating, “Because the writ of habeas corpus is intended to protect the liberty right of human beings to be free of unlawful confinement, it has no applicability to Happy, a nonhuman animal who is not a ‘person’ subjected to illegal detention.” The court also stated that “Nonhuman animals are not, and never have been, considered ‘persons’ with a right to liberty ...” The court recognized that a ruling characterizing animals as persons would have “an enormous destabilizing impact on modern society.” Lastly, the Court found that “Granting legal personhood to a nonhuman animal in such a manner would have significant implications for the interactions of humans and animals in all facets of life, including risking the disruption of property rights, the agricultural industry (among others), and medical research efforts. Indeed, followed to its logical conclusion, such a determination would call into question the very premises underlying pet ownership, the use of service animals, and the enlistment of animals in other forms of work.” This decision is in step with past precedence and a great decision for the profession.

Practice Act Review

A number of state agencies and veterinary medical associations undertook a review of their state’s practice act. The **Colorado** sunset review process requires regular evaluation of regulatory programs, including the state’s veterinary practice act, and the resulting CO HB 22-1235 implemented recommendations from the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies’ 2021 sunset report on the “Colorado Veterinary Practice Act.” The **Colorado Veterinary Medical Association** supported provisions in the new law that establish licensure of veterinary technicians, expand continuing education requirements, and create a veterinary professional assistance program.

The **Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners** (KBVE) has taken steps to update the state’s practice act. KY HB 493 would have established rules for veterinary telehealth, including definitions for telemedicine, teletriage, teleconsulting, and teleadvice. Provisions would clarify that a veterinarian must physically examine the animal or make medically appropriate visits to the premises within the past 12 months to establish a valid VCPR; prohibit a VCPR from being established solely by telehealth; establish basic standards for medical records; require criminal background checks for licensure; establish title protections for licensed veterinary technicians; require veterinary facilities to register with the board and be inspected at least once every five years; and establish a program for the board to issue educational awards in an effort to alleviate

veterinary shortages in agriculture. The **Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association** has been working closely with the KBVE throughout this process.

Pet Insurance

A new law in **Maine** [ME LD 482 (SP 186)] establishes requirements for the sale of pet insurance. Provisions require insurers to make specific disclosures to consumers about the terms and conditions of a pet insurance policy and how claims are paid; give policyholders the right to return a policy within 15 days; allow pet insurance policies to include exclusions for preexisting conditions if they are disclosed to consumers; and require insurance producers to be trained before selling pet insurance.

In **New York**, NY S 7587 would have established a framework to regulate the pet insurance industry by forbidding a policy to be issued if the policy excludes a pre-existing condition, a congenital anomaly or disorder, a hereditary disorder, or a chronic condition; requires that a summary description of the method used to determine claim payments be provided; and, allow consumers to return the policy within 30 days if no claim has been paid out.

In **New Jersey**, NJ S 3327 would establish a legal framework for the sale of pet insurance in the state.

The AVMA endorses the concept of pet health insurance that provides coverage to help defray the cost of veterinary medical care and encourages veterinary healthcare teams to proactively educate their clients about the existence of such resources. The AVMA also recognizes that viable pet health insurance programs may be an important approach for the veterinary profession to continue to provide high-quality veterinary services. More information on AVMA's policy on pet insurance can be found on the AVMA website.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

The **Alaska Veterinary Medical Association** championed AK SB 132 which would have exempted veterinarians from the controlled substance prescription database. Despite the strong support in the Senate, the bill failed passage in the House.

New Jersey's NJ AB 4185 would expand the state's prescription monitoring program to include veterinarians.

Scope of Practice

Legislation related to chiropractic animal care was also considered in several states. **Idaho's** [ID H 641](#) would have altered the definition of “indirect supervision” to remove the requirement for written or oral treatment instructions or an examination by a supervising veterinarian prior to treatment by a chiropractic allied health professional and allow qualified chiropractic health professionals the ability to advertise and offer services to the public. **Iowa's** [IA SF 2212](#) would have required the Board of Veterinary Medicine to grant registration to licensed chiropractors if they hold a valid license and are certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association. And **Missouri's** [MO HB 2739](#) would have permitted an individual certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or International Veterinary Chiropractic Association to provide chiropractic care to an animal without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

Legislation that would ban declaw procedures on cats was again filed in numerous states. Most notable was the enactment of a statewide prohibition ([MD HB 22/MD SB 67](#)) by the **Maryland** legislature in April. **New York** passed a law banning the procedure in 2019. Other state legislatures considered similar bills but ultimately did not enact them: **California** ([CA AB 2606](#)), **Delaware** ([DE HB 333](#)), **New Hampshire** ([NH HB 1226](#)); **Rhode Island** ([RI HB 7574](#)), and **Wisconsin** ([WI SB 1001](#)). In **New Jersey**, [NJ A 1087](#) and [NJ A 2578](#) would ban the declaw procedure and are still active in the legislative process. Resources for veterinarians and pet owners, including the AVMA's policy on the declawing of domesticated cats, can be found [here](#).

Legislation in **New Jersey** ([NJ A 1211](#) and [NJ S 1925](#)) would prohibit a person from cropping or altering the tail or ears of a dog for cosmetic reasons.

In **Indiana**, [IN SB 111](#) would have allowed an individual who performs teeth floating on horses to be exempt from licensing or special permit requirements if the individual has a valid certification from the International Association of Equine Dentistry or an equivalent certification approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine. The individual would have to act under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian when administering a sedative drug to a horse prior to performing the teeth floating on the horse.

In **Missouri**, [MO SB 1058/MO HB 1586](#) would have prohibited political subdivisions, such as cities and counties, from regulating the practice of veterinary medicine.

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship and Telemedicine

The requirements to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) and the use of telemedicine remained an area of significant interest for state policymakers and stakeholders in 2022.

In **Alaska**, the Board of Veterinary of Veterinary Examiners published regulations (AK 12 AAC 68.215) defining a VCPR. The provisions require an initial physical examination to establish a VCPR, which must be renewed every twelve months but permits an initial evaluation of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in regions of the state where travel is impossible and there is no locally available veterinarian.

Regulations finalized in **Arkansas** (AR 209.05.22-001) require that a VCPR be established by an in-person examination or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept, with an exception for emergencies, for services to be provided by a veterinarian via telehealth. These regulatory changes were the result of implementing a law enacted in 2021 (AR HB 1099) authorizing the state Veterinary Medical Examining Board to promulgate rules outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine in the practice of veterinary medicine.

A new law backed by the **Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association** (HI HB 1598/HI SB 2798) and supported by the AVMA defines a VCPR, which requires a physical examination or timely and medically appropriate visits to the premises where the animal patient is kept. Provisions also establish parameters for the use of veterinary telemedicine; authorize the veterinary medical board to grant temporary courtesy and relief permits for out-of-state veterinarians; and, allow international veterinary school graduates to qualify for the licensure examination.

Iowa finalized a regulation, IA ARC 6397C, that clarifies and addresses the responsibilities of veterinarians who provide services in an emergency setting, defining "emergency," "physical examination," and "premises"; clarifies and revises two of the criteria to allow a VCPR for groups of animals; and, allows a licensed veterinarian with a VCPR to designate another licensed veterinarian to consult or provide back-up care. This rulemaking addressed public comments made as the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine adopted rules requiring a VCPR.

Multiple VCPR-related bills were considered in **Michigan**. Legislation championed by the **Michigan Veterinary Medical Association** (MI HB 4912) would have required a veterinarian to have recently seen and be personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by the

client by physically examining the patient or by medically appropriate and timely professional visits to the location where the patient is kept. Proponents of establishing a VCPR via telemedicine introduced MI HB 5804, which would have allowed a VCPR to be formed if a veterinarian obtained current knowledge of the animal through instrumentation and diagnostic equipment that can be transmitted electronically or through a referral from another veterinarian. While hearings were held, neither bill crossed the finish line before the legislature adjourned. Meanwhile, a Michigan Board of Veterinary Medicine rule change (MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933) was proposed to require an in-person examination to provide telemedicine services. This rule change will be considered for approval in 2023.

In **Florida**, the **Florida Veterinary Medical Association** worked tirelessly to defeat FL SB 448 and FL HB 723, which would have allowed a VCPR to be established by telemedicine.

Regulations in **Nevada** (NV R074-21) were finalized to implement a law (NV AB 200) enacted in 2021. The law, championed by the **Nevada Veterinary Medical Association**, defines both the VCPR and veterinary telemedicine, and requires a physical examination or visits to the premise where the animal is kept the establish a VCPR. These regulations further define “physical examination.” A new law in **West Virginia** (WV HB 4570) requires a veterinarian to perform an in-person examination within the 12 months prior to the telehealth service, and at least every 12 months thereafter, to provide veterinary care via telehealth services.

AVMA policy supports the appropriate use of telemedicine while strongly supporting the requirement that a VCPR must be established by in-person examination of the patient or timely visits to the premises where animals are kept. More information on the AVMA’s Telemedicine policy can be found [here](#).

Veterinary Technicians and Assistants

Credentialing, title protection, and scope of practice for veterinary technicians and assistants were all topics of interest across many states.

- Enactment of **Colorado** CO HB 22-1235 establishes the licensure of veterinary technicians and requires the veterinary board to create regulations for the role.
- **Kentucky’s** KY HB 493 would have amended the existing statute to allow for distinction between the college-educated, licensed veterinary technician and the trained layperson veterinary assistant and clarify the title protections available for licensed veterinary technician (LVT) classes.

- Led by the **Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association** and the **Minnesota Association of Veterinary Technicians**, and supported by the AVMA, [MN SF 2935](#) would have established licensure for veterinary technicians.
- After passing legislation establishing the licensure of veterinary technicians in 2021, regulations ([MT 23-13-264](#)) in **Montana** were finalized, and establish licensure requirements and other regulations for the role.
- In **New Hampshire**, a proposed regulation ([NH Veterinary Nurses, Technicians, and Assistants](#)) would establish rules to specify which tasks may be performed by veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, and veterinary assistants.
- **New Jersey** has several bills that would regulate licensure of veterinary technicians ([NJ S 4168](#), [NJ A 784](#), [NJ A 2026](#)).
- In October, **Delaware** legislators passed legislation ([DE SB 228](#)) that allows veterinary technicians to administer rabies vaccinations to dogs, cats, and ferrets. Previously, only licensed veterinarians were allowed to administer rabies vaccinations.
- A finalized regulation ([NV Revises provisions relating to veterinary technicians](#)) in **Nevada** establishes college and continuing education coursework requirements for registration as a veterinary technician in training or for a license to practice as a veterinary technician.
- In **Texas**, a finalized regulation ([TX 22 TAC §571.18](#)) permits only individuals who have received formal education at an accredited Veterinary Technician Institution and are licensed by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to hold the title of Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT).
- In **Massachusetts**, [MA S 2571](#) and [MA S 219](#) would have established licensure for veterinary technicians.

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	CO 2022-00688	Streamlines the training, continuing education, renewal process, and statistics reporting for Bureau of Animal Protection agents.	Finalized 1/25/2023
Connecticut	CT SB 235	Would have required veterinarians to report to local law enforcement agencies when they treat dogs that they believe have been used in animal fighting.	Sine Die Failed
Kentucky	KY HB 71	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required peace officers and animal control officers to serve notice of seizure of an animal subjected to cruelty; 2. Created procedures for seizing agencies to petition a court to order payment of animal care costs by the owner; and, 3. Prohibited the destruction of seized animals, except for humane reasons determined by a veterinarian. 	Sine Die Failed

Louisiana	LA HB 607	Increases the minimum fine and imprisonment for a conviction of cruelty to animals and allows the court to require the offender to pay for any expenses incurred for medical treatment of the animal.	Enacted 6/18/2022
Missouri	MO HB 2204	Related to the confiscation of animals, would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Held the owner of the animal liable for the costs of placement and care if negligent acts or abuse had occurred, or held the confiscating agency responsible for costs if negligent acts or abuse are not proven; and, 2. Criminalized intentional euthanasia, other than what is permissible to relieve suffering, or sterilization of an animal prior to the deposition hearing. 	Sine Die Failed
Nebraska	NE LB 851	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires a law enforcement officer who has reason to believe that an animal has been abandoned or is being cruelly neglected or cruelly mistreated to make prompt investigation; and, 2. Defines “cruelly mistreats” as with no justifiable purpose, to knowingly and intentionally kill, maim, disfigure, torture, beat, kick, hit, strike in any manner, mutilate, burn, scald, or otherwise inflict harm upon any animal. 	Enacted 4/20/2022
New Jersey	NJ AB 4563	Would have established procedures for seizure, care, and forfeiture of animals involved in animal cruelty violations.	Sine Die Failed
Pennsylvania	PA HB 2912	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibited the importation or sale of dogs and cats from some dealers or kennels; 2. Required duty of persons, kennels, and animal testing facilities to offer dogs and cats for adoption; 3. Established whistleblower protections for those reporting animal cruelty; and, 4. Imposed penalties for violations. 	Sine Die Failed
Utah	UT SB 165	Would have created and amended definitions of terms as they relate to animal cruelty provisions, including adequate care, good animal husbandry practices, production animal, sanitary conditions, and shelter.	Sine Die Failed
Vermont	VT HB 504	Would have required the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to submit to the General Assembly a report regarding the reorganization, enhancement, and enforcement of animal welfare requirements in the State. The report would have compared animal welfare laws and regulations of states in New England (specifically Maine) and made legislative recommendations.	Sine Die Failed
Vermont	VT HB 729	Directs the Department of Public Safety to report to the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations a plan to unify the domestic animal welfare and related public safety functions across State government. The report must include draft legislation to enact the plan.	Enacted 05/12/2022
Virginia	VA HB 53	Would increase the burden from reasonable cause to probable cause to obtain a warrant to conduct a search for animal cruelty.	Introduced 1/3/2022

Animal Advocate | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Louisiana	LA HB 842	Provides immunity from civil liability or criminal prosecution for veterinarians and veterinary technicians for the reporting of animal cruelty in good faith.	Enacted 8/1/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 1965	Would provide an advocate in criminal cases concerning animal welfare to represent the best interests of, and justice for, the animal.	Introduced 1/11/2022

Rhode Island	RI SB 2227 RI HB 7678	Would have allowed a civil or criminal court to, at their discretion, appoint pro bono attorneys and supervised law students to act as animal advocates in animal cruelty and abuse cases to promote the interests of justice.	Sine Die Failed
Rhode Island	RI H 7087	Would have created a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal.	Sine Die Failed

Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Georgia	GA HB 1000	Would have: 1. Exempted an animal from the rabies vaccination requirement if a licensed veterinarian determined in writing that a rabies inoculation would have compromised the animal's health and exempted the animal until such time as a licensed veterinarian determined that such inoculation would not compromise the animal's health; and, 2. Exempted an animal from the rabies vaccination requirement indefinitely if a rabies inoculation had been shown through the results of a vaccine titer to be medically unnecessary.	Sine Die Failed
Indiana	Indiana State Board of Animal Health 22-127	Adds a definition of "animal health professional", which includes veterinarians; 1. Adds Egg Drop Syndrome Virus (ESDV) to the reportable disease list; and, 2. Requires reporting of a listed disease to the state veterinarian within 24 hours of receiving the information. Previously, information was required to be reported within two business days.	Finalized 9/14/2022
Rhode Island	RI HB 7785	Allows the director of the department of environmental management to: 1. Establish quarantine or control zones consistent with state and United States Department of Agriculture emergency plans to restrict the movement of animals, animal carcasses, animal tissues, and animal products suspected of being affected with a contagious, infectious, zoonotic, or communicable disease; and, 2. Order examination or testing of any quarantined animal or animal in a quarantine or control zone for disease surveillance purposes or as a term of the order of quarantine; and, 3. Authorize qualified department personnel to carry out any examination or testing or order the testing to be performed by a licensed veterinarian qualified to perform the testing.	Enacted 5/24/2022
Tennessee	TN HB 1910/TN SB 1882	Would have allowed a certified animal control agency to administer vaccinations and microchip implants by or under the responsible supervision of a licensed veterinarian as a part of a community outreach program.	Sine Die Failed
Virginia	VA HB 1074	Would direct the Board of Health to develop an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for animals if a licensed veterinarian certified in writing that the vaccine would endanger the animal based on an underlying medical factor and a titer test indicated a sufficient level of immunity to rabies.	Introduced 1/12/2022

Animal Shelters			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	<u>CA AB 1648</u>	Requires a city or county that requires a kennel license or permit to operate a kennel within its jurisdiction to require, as a condition for obtaining the kennel license or permit, that the kennel owner create and submit to the city or county an animal natural disaster evacuation plan for any kennel covered by the license or permit.	Enacted 9/26/2022
California	<u>CA AB 1881</u>	Would have required every public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group to post a copy of the Dog and Cat Bill of Rights and provided penalties for not posting.	Sine Die Failed
California	<u>CA AB 2723</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires the owner or new owner of the dog or cat to be registered with the microchip registry company as the primary owner of the dog or cat; and, 2. Prohibits the agency, shelter, or group from being listed as the primary owner of the dog or cat beginning 90 days after the dog or cat has been released to the owner or adopted, sold, or given away to a new owner. 	Enacted 9/26/2022
Louisiana	<u>LA SR 57</u>	Requests local governing authorities and animal shelters to adopt policies and programs to provide alternatives to euthanizing healthy dogs and cats.	Enacted 5/2/2022
Maine	<u>ME LD 744 (SP 599)</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increases the amount of the fees deposited in the Animal Welfare Fund; and, 2. Increases daily compensation for animal shelters holding animals pending court decisions. 	Enacted 4/25/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ SB 1736</u>	Would prohibit euthanizing animals in shelters or pounds except for health or safety reasons.	Introduced 2/28/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 4564</u>	Would prohibit fireworks on property adjacent to an animal shelter, pound, or kennel.	Introduced 9/15/2022
New York	<u>NY SB 7911</u>	Would have required the release of a shelter animal to a rescue group upon request from the group prior to the animal being euthanized.	Sine Die Failed
Utah	<u>UT SB 69</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required animal shelters that euthanize animals to adopt a euthanasia policy; and, 2. Required a biennial training program, approved by a licensed veterinarian, for individuals who conduct or assist with euthanasia on behalf of the animal shelter. 	Sine Die Failed
Virginia	<u>VA HB 373</u>	Would authorize an animal shelter to return a cat to the place from which it was taken after the expiration of the stray hold period. Any such cat must be vaccinated for rabies, spayed or neutered, and eartipped.	Introduced 1/10/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 2095</u>	<p>Would have required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The governing body of each county or municipality to ensure a facility exists to house and care for their community's animals in need, including stray animals, abandoned animals, and surrendered animals; 2. Owners of a companion animal to provide veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or disease transmission; 3. A veterinarian to conduct investigations of animal shelters if the humane officer operates, is employed by, or is otherwise affiliated with that animal shelter; 4. Animal shelters provide adequate veterinary care for sick or injured animals, such that animals suspected of illness or injury receive veterinary care within 24 hours and are provided medication necessary to alleviate pain; 	Sine Die Failed

		<p>5. Breeders provide each purchaser of a dog information including a record of any veterinarian treatment and potential statement by a veterinarian; and,</p> <p>6. Remedies be provided for purchasers of dogs deemed unfit for sale provided the purchaser obtains written verification from a licensed veterinarian.</p>	
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Companion Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL HB 4643	Would have required a pet shop operator to obtain documentation verifying a breeder meets or exceeds the relevant standards set by the Department of Agriculture.	Sine Die Failed
Indiana	IN SB 18	Would have forbidden any law or regulation from preventing an individual from owning, possessing, keeping, harboring, transporting, purchasing, or selling a breed-specific dog.	Sine Die Failed
Iowa	IA SF 2035	Would have prohibited breed-specific bans or restrictions by counties or cities from applying to service animals or service animals in training.	Sine Die Failed
Minnesota	MN SF 3076/MN HF 3637	<p>Would have prohibited a landlord who allows animals on the premises from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requiring a tenant or occupant of real property to declaw or devocalize an animal allowed on the premise; and, 2. Refusing to allow the occupancy of a property to negotiate the occupancy of a real property or to otherwise deny occupancy because of a person's refusal or declaw or devocalize an animal. 	Sine Die Failed
Missouri	MO HB 1657/MO HB 1588/MO SB 697	Would have prohibited villages, towns, and cities from regulating dogs in a breed-specific manner.	Sine Die Failed
Missouri	MO SB 979	<p>Would have required any public or private university or college that receives state funds to post on their website the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A list of active animal research projects and the total cost of and the number of and name of animal species; 2. A review of the project's compliance with applicable federal and state law; 3. The total number of animals by species adopted out from research laboratories to animal shelters; 4. Current rosters for all Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees; and, 5. A detailed explanation of efforts by the college or university to refine, reduce, and replace the use of animals in research during the preceding year. 	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	NJ SB 2108	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow any person to anonymously deliver a domestic companion animal to a shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station in the State, and leave the animal with an employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the facility; 2. Provide that the person would not be liable for the care or disposition of the animal; and, 6. Provide that no employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station, may refuse to accept any domestic companion animal. 	Introduced 3/3/2022
New Jersey	NJ SB 2278	Would prohibit any breed or size restriction for dog ownership.	Introduced 3/14/2022

New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 384/NJ AB 319</u>	Would require veterinary facilities to obtain a signed consent form for unsupervised overnight stays of domestic companion animals.	Introduced 1/11/2022
Tennessee	<u>TN SB 1778/TN HB 1967</u>	Would have prohibited counties and municipalities from adopting, enacting, or enforcing a rule, regulation, resolution, or ordinance relating to a specific breed of domesticated animal.	Sine Die Failed
Virginia	<u>VA HB 1330</u>	Requires veterinarians, public or private animal shelters, and releasing agencies to seek to identify the lawful owners of the unidentified companion animals that are submitted to them by scanning for embedded microchips.	Enacted 4/11/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 4806</u>	Would have prohibited the enactment or enforcement of any statute, ordinance, legislative rule, policy, or law that applies specifically to a particular dog breed.	Sine Die Failed

Continuing Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Maryland	<u>MD 15.14.10</u>	Removes the limitation on the number of credit hours that a licensed veterinarian may obtain through online continuing education programs in a given licensing year to maintain the person's registration with the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.	Finalized 2/8/2023
Washington	<u>WA 22-04-085</u>	Implements the statutory requirement for a one-time, 3-hour training in suicide prevention for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.	Finalized 3/21/2022

Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	<u>DE HB 403</u>	Would have required recipients of financial assistance from the Delaware Institute of Veterinary Medicine to practice veterinary medicine in Delaware for at least two years upon graduation.	Sine Die Failed
Mississippi	<u>MS SB 2433</u>	Would have allowed the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University to only admit applicants who have been bona fide residents of Mississippi for three consecutive years immediately preceding the date of their application. Would have made positions in the incoming first-year class open, after the first round of admissions and subsequent reservations by resident applicants, available to nonresident applicants.	Sine Die Failed
Missouri	<u>MO HB 2622</u>	Would have required "health-related professional schools," including veterinary schools, to offer and require a one-hour instructional course on state and federal controlled substances laws and prescribing.	Sine Die Failed
Missouri	<u>MO HB 3017</u>	Appropriates funds for the design and construction of a new veterinary laboratory at the University of Missouri.	Enacted 6/30/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A.C.R 114</u>	Would express support for a new School of Veterinary Medicine at Rowan University	Introduced 2/28/2022
Utah	<u>UT SB 1/UT HB 3</u>	Appropriates funds for the programming, design, and construction of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Utah State University.	Enacted 2/2/2022 Finalized 3/24/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HCR 68</u>	Would have requested a formal feasibility study be conducted on the viability of establishing an accredited school of veterinary medicine in West Virginia.	Sine Die Failed

Emergency First Responders			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	<u>AR 007.03.22-001</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allows Emergency Medical Services Personnel (EMSPs) to transport injured police dogs to a veterinary hospital or clinic if a person does not require medical attention; and, 2. Eliminates the ability for EMSPs to provide emergency care to a police dog without limitation. 	Finalized 4/22/2022
Minnesota	<u>MN SF 2858</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required ambulance personnel to provide emergency treatment and ambulance service to a veterinary care facility for a police dog injured in the line of duty, if it does not inhibit the ability to provide treatment and service to a person; 2. Provided liability protection for ambulance service personnel if services provided to police dogs were provided in good faith and within the scope of their authority; and, 3. Required appropriate training for ambulance service personnel to provide basic life support to a dog, including administering naloxone, and safe handling procedures for injured police dogs, including a box muzzle. 	Sine Die Failed
Rhode Island	<u>RI HB 7021</u>	<p>Authorizes emergency medical treatment to police dogs injured in the line of duty which includes transporting by ambulance. Requires the Dept. of Health, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association, to develop policies and procedures for EMS workers administering basic first aid to injured police dogs.</p>	Enacted 6/29/2022

Liability			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ HB 2692</u>	<p>Would have defined “malpractice,” “gross incompetence,” and “gross negligence” in the practice of veterinary medicine to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The failure of an examining veterinarian to provide the owner with all medical information related to the animal’s health; 2. The failure to provide records or copies of veterinary medical services to the animal owner or another licensed veterinarian currently providing services within ten days of the owner or current veterinarian’s request; 3. Making a false statement on or altering any document, record, or report concerning the medical treatment of an animal; and, 4. Would have provided a person with a private right of action against a veterinarian if there was a VCPR in place with the veterinarian who did not fully disclose all the information of an animal’s medical condition. 	Sine Die Failed
Iowa	<u>IA SF 2135</u>	<p>Would have provided a veterinarian immunity from administrative, civil, or criminal liability while involved in investigations involving the mistreatment of animals.</p>	Sine Die Failed
Iowa	<u>IA HF 2429/IA HSB 708</u>	<p>Would have provided immunity from administrative, civil, or criminal liability when reporting alleged mistreatment in good faith.</p>	Sine Die Failed
Louisiana	<u>LA HB 842</u>	<p>Provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for veterinarians and veterinary technicians for the reporting of animal cruelty in good faith.</p>	Enacted 5/17/2022
Missouri	<u>MO SB 1182</u>	<p>Would have:</p>	Sine Die Failed

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons; 2. Required any animal control officers or animal humane investigators to receive one hour of training within the first 60 days of employment to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect in children, the elderly, and vulnerable persons; 3. Created a mandated reporting requirement for certain mental health, educational, protective services, and law enforcement personnel to report cases of companion animal abuse or neglect to a hotline established by the Missouri Animal Control Association (MACA); and, 4. Made a mandated reporter, including a veterinarian, who fails to make a report subject to discipline by their professional licensing board and a fine. 	
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Licensure			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	<u>AK HB 302</u>	Would have allowed the veterinary board to adopt a certification process for the licensure of veterinary medicine.	Sine Die Failed
Arizona	<u>AZ HB 2626</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Includes failing to thoroughly scan for a microchip and make a reasonable effort to contact the owner as unprofessional or dishonorable conduct as grounds for refusal to issue or renew a license to practice veterinary medicine; and, 2. Requires an animal shelter to thoroughly scan for the presence of a microchip in a cat or dog and make a reasonable effort to contact the owner. 	Enacted 4/29/2022
Louisiana	<u>LA LAC 46:LXXXV .Chapters 3-15</u>	Repeals the preceptor program as a requirement for DVM licensure.	Finalized 3/20/2023
Louisiana	<u>LA LAC 46:LXXXV .303 and 803</u>	Allows waiver eligibility for part-time veterinarians concerning the NAVLE application requirement and the waiver eligibility for part-time registered veterinary technicians for the VTNE application requirement.	Finalized 3/20/2023
Mississippi	<u>MS HB 447</u>	Would have required the Board of Veterinary Medicine to issue a license to practice veterinary medicine if the applicant showed satisfactory proof that they were a graduate of an accredited college of veterinary medicine or equivalent and the individual was licensed to practice in at least one other state or territory.	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	<u>NJ SB 182/NJ AB 570</u>	Would require licensing of pet groomers.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 2548</u>	Would require the licensure of dog trainers.	Introduced 2/14/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 3097</u>	Would require licensure for pet grooming.	Introduced 3/7/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 3126</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the penalty of any person who has been found to have practiced veterinary medicine without a license to be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree; and, 2. State that a person is guilty of an aggravated violation if the person performs surgery or any other serious operation on any animal or attempts to cause or purposely or knowingly causes a serious injury or harm, or death of any animal. 	Introduced 3/7/2022

New Mexico	NM HB 56	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires that a nonresident veterinarian shall be issued no more than a sixty-day temporary permit and no more than two sixty-day permits to be issued in a calendar year; and, Allows a nonresident veterinarian that is employed by or contracted with the state, a municipality, or a county to provide veterinary services at a nationally accredited zoo or aquarium in New Mexico to have a temporary permit to be issued for no more than six-months and no more than two consecutive six-month, temporary permits. 	Finalized 3/2/2022
New York	NY Unprofessional Conduct in the Practice of Veterinary Medicine	Defines unprofessional conduct for multi-veterinarian and solo veterinarian practices.	Finalized 9/28/2022
New York	NY AB 9663	Would have required licensure of pet grooming facilities.	Sine Die Failed
Oregon	OR OAR 875-010-0000	Would amend the experience requirements for Veterinarian License Applicants requesting a waiver of the Clinical Competency Test requirement from five continuous years immediately prior to the application date to five of the last 10 years immediately prior to the application date.	Proposed 3/1/2022

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL SB 4043	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provided that a medically important antibiotic can only be administered to a food-producing animal if prescribed by a licensed veterinarian who has visited the farm operation within the previous 6 months and deemed necessary for disease treatment; disease control; or a surgical or other medical procedure that exposes normally sterile body sites to infection; Allowed a producer to provide a medically important antibiotic to a food-producing animal only for the period necessary to accomplish the specified purposes; Prohibited a medically important antibiotic from being administered to food-producing animals solely for the purpose of promoting weight gain, improving feed efficiency, or disease prevention; and, Required a producer that operates a large, concentrated animal feeding operation as defined by the US Environmental Protection Agency to file an annual report containing information about the drug and its use. 	Sine Die Failed
Nebraska	NE LB 848	Authorizes, when funds are available, the development and execution of county or other local emergency management organizations' catastrophic livestock mortality disposal plans for a response to a disease, natural disaster, or other emergency event resulting in catastrophic livestock mortality.	Enacted 4/20/2022
New York	NY SB 8847	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Established an Office of Antibiotic-Resistance Control in the Department of Health to coordinate, monitor, and intervene to reduce the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in New York State; and, 	Sine Die Failed

		2. Imposed new limits on the use of medically important antibiotics in food-producing animals.	
Rhode Island	<u>RI HB 7665/RI SB 2444</u>	Allows licensed veterinarians to control and prescribe chorionic gonadotropin strictly for farm cattle treatments or any nonhuman species when that use is approved by the Food and Drug Administration.	Enacted 6/21/2022

Loan Repayment Programs

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ HB 2864/AZ SB 1731</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Program within the Arizona Board of Regents; and, 2. Requires a recipient of the program to remain and work as a full-time veterinarian in Arizona for four years in agricultural practice in an area designated by the USDA as having a shortage, or in a nonprofit, county, or municipal shelter. 	Enacted 6/28/2022
Florida	<u>FL SB 1838</u>	Would have established the Professional Student Loan Repayment Program. Under the program, veterinarians could have practiced in shortage areas within the state and applied for the repayment of loans used for educational expenses. The maximum an individual could have received per year was \$50,000 for a maximum of five years.	Sine Die Failed
Idaho	<u>ID S 1344/ID S 1380</u>	Would have established a loan repayment program for rural veterinarians who treat large animals.	Sine Die Failed
Kansas	<u>KS HB 2605</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes an advisory committee that will serve over the veterinary training program of rural Kansas to help select students, determine the needs of the program and provide input to the college of veterinary medicine at Kansas State University; 2. Increases the loan amount (from \$20,000) to not more than \$25,000 per year; 3. Increases the county population requirement maximum (from 35,000 to 40,000) for counties where program participants must engage in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine; and, 4. Adds the ability for participants to fulfill certain requirements by working in a registered veterinary premises under a licensed veterinarian if food animal patients make up at least 50% of such veterinarian's practice. 	Enacted 4/7/2022
Maine	<u>ME LD 1885 (HP 1395)</u>	Amended the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Including an insufficient number of practitioners of emergency and critical care services in the definition of "insufficient veterinary services"; 2. Defining "underserved geographic region;" 3. Creating the option for veterinary students to qualify for the program by demonstrating an interest in working in underserved geographic regions of the State, as determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; 4. Increasing the maximum number of annual loan awards from 2 to 10; and, 5. Increasing the maximum loan amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years. 	Enacted 5/3/2022
Missouri	<u>MO HB 3006</u>	Appropriates funds to the Veterinary Student Loan Payment Fund.	Enacted 6/30/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ SB 3054</u>	Would establish loan redemption programs for certain veterinarians practicing in the state.	Introduced 9/22/2022

New Jersey	NJ SB 371	Would establish a veterinary medicine loan redemption program for certain veterinarians who work in underserved areas for five years.	Introduced 12/5/2022
New Jersey	NJ AB 323	Would create the Veterinary Medicine Loan Redemption Program for veterinarians who work at an approved site for five years.	Introduced 1/21/2022

Marijuana | Cannabis | Hemp

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA AB 1885	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibits the board from disciplining a veterinarian who recommends the use of cannabis on an animal for potential therapeutic effect or health supplementation purposes, unless the veterinarian is employed by or has an agreement with a cannabis licensee; 2. Requires the board to adopt guidelines by 1/1/2024 for veterinarians to follow-up when recommending cannabis within the VCPR; and, 3. Requires cannabis products intended for animals to comply with additional concentration and other standards adopted by regulations. 	Enacted 9/18/2022
Rhode Island	RI HB 7469	Would have added domestic pets as eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.	Sine Die Failed
Utah	UT SB 209	Clarifies that a licensed veterinarian is not prohibited from discussing the effect of cannabis on an animal with the animal's owner.	Enacted 3/21/2022

Non-Economic Damages | Malpractice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	DE SS 1 for DE SB 258	Allows, in cases of tortious injuries to a pet, the reasonable and necessary cost of veterinary care. Provisions allowing for non-economic damages (NED) were removed from the bill via a substitute bill.	Enacted 10/14/22
Maryland	MD SB 815 /MD HB 1375	Would have allowed for non-economic damages in cases where the tortious action causes an injury or death of a pet and damages would have been capped at \$10,000.	Withdrawn by Sponsor 3/17/2022

Pharmaceuticals | Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	AK SB 132	Would have exempted veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database.	Sine Die Failed
Arizona	AZ SB 1569	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permits a pharmacist to distribute drugs (including compounded drugs) to a licensed veterinarian; 2. Permits a licensed veterinarian to possess and keep these drugs in stock for administering and dispensing the drugs pursuant to a nonpatient-specific regimen prescribed or ordered by the veterinarian; and, 3. Permits the pharmacist to distribute an unlimited quantity of compounded drugs to a veterinarian. 	Enacted 7/6/2022
Arkansas	AR 007.39.22-003	Updates language to allow pharmacists in a Class A pharmacy or FDA registered and Arkansas permitted 503b outsourcing facility to compound office use products for veterinarians as allowed under new FDA Guidance.	Finalized 12/16/2022

California	<u>CA 2021-1112-01</u>	<p>Establishes provisions for compounding in veterinary premises, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining “compounding” as altering the dosage form or delivery system of a drug, altering the strength of a drug, combining components or active ingredients, preparing a compounded drug preparation from chemicals, or preparing from bulk substances (all to be done by a licensed veterinarian with an established VCPR or an RVT under the direct supervision of a veterinarian); 2. Clarifying that compounding is not the sole act of splitting or crushing a tablet, reconstituting a drug according to the manufacturer’s directions for administration, or the addition of flavoring agents to enhance palatability; 3. Requiring a formula document for each compounded drug preparation, which would include active ingredients used, equipment used, expiration date, inactive ingredients, steps taken to prepare the drug, and instructions for storage, handling, and administration; 4. Requiring the veterinarian performing or supervising the compounding to train and supervise the RVT who is compounding the drug preparation; 5. Requiring a veterinary premise that engages in compounding drug preparations to maintain written policies and procedures and to establish a quality assurance program to assess errors that occur in drug preparations and to immediately communicate to the client; 6. Requiring a veterinarian to ensure the safety and efficacy of a compounded drug preparation; 7. Prohibiting a veterinarian from performing drug compounding when the complexity of the drug compounding exceeds the veterinarian’s knowledge, skill, facilities, or available equipment; and, 8. Prohibiting a veterinarian from compounding unless there are no other human or animal drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and available that satisfy the need for this preparation. 	Finalized 1/4/2022
Iowa	<u>IA ARC 6178C</u>	<p>Allows veterinarians who have obtained compounded preparations for office stock use to dispense the compounded preparations to the owner of a veterinary patient to treat an immediate medical need when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timely access to a patient-specific supply of compounded medication is not available; 2. No commercially available product can meet the need of the patient; 3. Lack of treatment will likely result in patient harm; and, 4. The supply does not exceed 14 days. 	Adopted 6/1/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 188</u>	<p>Would require:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Veterinarians to review the Prescription Monitoring Program database before issuing a prescription for a controlled dangerous substance; 2. The pharmacy permit holder dispensing the prescription drug submit information about the veterinary client to the Prescription Monitoring Program; 3. Veterinarians provide a veterinary client with the client’s own prescription monitoring information if requested; 4. The pharmacy permit holder submit identifying information about any other individual who attempts to pick up an animal’s prescription if the pharmacist has a reasonable belief that that person may be seeking the drug for any 	Introduced 1/21/2022

		reason other than delivering the substance to the animal for the treatment of an existing medical condition; and, 5. Prescriptions for animals to be issued in the name of the animal owner.	
New Jersey	NJ AB 4185	Would expand the prescription monitoring program to include veterinarians.	Introduced 5/27/2022
New York	NY SB 8106	Would have required health care professionals, including veterinarians, to prescribe opioid antagonists when prescribing an opioid and discuss the dangers of opioid addiction with such patients in a manner consistent with regulations promulgated by the commissioner of health.	Sine Die Failed
Washington, DC	DC DCMR 17-10316	Expands the PDMP Advisory Committee from seven to thirteen members to include <i>ex officio</i> members from the Board of Veterinary Medicine and other related boards.	Finalized 2/17/2023

Pet Insurance

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Maine	ME LD 482 (SP 186)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines terms used in pet insurance policies and contracts; 2. Requires insurers to make specific disclosures to consumers about the terms and conditions of a pet insurance policy and how claims are paid and gives policyholders the right to return a policy within 15 days; 3. Allows pet insurance policies to include exclusions for preexisting conditions if they are disclosed to consumers; 4. Allows pet insurance policies to include a waiting period for illnesses or orthopedic conditions but not accidents and provides that the waiting period may not exceed 30 days and requires an insurer to waive a waiting period if the covered pet undergoes a medical examination paid for by the policyholder; 5. Prohibits insurers and producers from marketing wellness programs as insurance and marketing wellness programs while selling, soliciting, or negotiating pet insurance; and, 6. Requires insurance producers to be trained before selling pet insurance. 	Enacted 4/7/2022
New Jersey	NJ SB 3327	Would create a comprehensive legal framework within which pet insurance may be sold in New Jersey.	Introduced 11/14/2022
New York	NY SB 7587	<p>Would have established a framework to regulate the pet insurance industry by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forbidding a policy to be issued if the policy excluded a pre-existing condition, a congenital anomaly or disorder, a hereditary disorder, or a chronic condition; 2. Requiring that a summary description of the method used to determine claim payments be provided; and, 3. Allowing consumers to return the policy within 30 days if no claim has been paid out. 	Sine Die Failed

Research| Research Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA SB 879	Prohibits a contract testing facility from conducting a canine or feline toxicological experiment unless the experiment is conducted for the purpose of developing, manufacturing, or marketing any product intended for beneficial use in dogs or cats, including, but not limited to, anesthesia, cancer treatment, animal vaccines, other animal medicines, or flea and tick products.	Enacted 9/26/2022

Rhode Island	RI HB 7297	Would have banned a person or manufacturer from selling or offering for sale any cosmetic that was developed or manufactured using animal testing.	Sine Die Failed
Virginia	VA SB 87 VA HB 255	Prohibits any state entity, including a public institution of higher education, from procuring dogs or cats for research purposes from a person or entity that has received certain citations pursuant to the federal Animal Welfare Act.	Enacted 4/5/2022
Virginia	VA SB 88	Requires entities that breed dogs or cats for sale or transfer to an animal testing facility to keep records of each animal for two years from the date of the sale or transfer, and to annually submit a summary of the records to the State Veterinarian.	Enacted 4/5/2022
Virginia	VA SB 90	Requires a breeder of dogs and cats for sale or transfer to an animal testing facility, that no longer has a need for a dog or cat in its possession, to offer the animal for adoption prior to euthanizing it. Previously, only animal testing facilities were subject to this requirement.	Enacted 4/5/2022
Virginia	VA HB 523	Requires any person or entity that breeds dogs and cats for animal testing facilities to submit a monthly report to the State Veterinarian including information regarding the birth, acquisition, death, sale, transfer, or other disposition of a dog or cat.	Enacted 4/8/2022
Virginia	VA SB 604	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clarifies that dogs and cats in the possession of a person who, or an entity that, breeds dogs or cats for sale or transfer to an animal research facility are considered companion animals for the purposes of animal cruelty statutes; and, Provides that breeding dogs or cats for sale or transfer to a research facility, or breeding dogs or cats within a research facility, does not constitute “bona fide scientific or medical experimentation” for purposes of animal cruelty statutes. 	Enacted 4/5/2022

Scope of Practice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR 239.01.22-002	Would permit any chiropractor licensed in the state and certified by the equivalent of the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association, in addition to the AVCA, to perform chiropractic care upon an animal.	Proposed 4/22/2022
California	CA AB 2606	Would have prohibited a person from performing surgical claw removal, declawing, or a tendonectomy on any cat or otherwise altering a cat’s toes, claws, or paws to prevent or impair the normal function of the cat’s toes, claws, or paws, except for a therapeutic purpose.	Sine Die Failed
Delaware	DE HB 333	Would have prohibited a declawing procedure on a cat except when necessary for a therapeutic purpose.	Sine Die Failed
District of Columbia	DCB24-0560	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit nontherapeutic declawing of cats; Modify the pure property disposition of a pet in a divorce so that the court may assign sole or joint ownership of a pet based upon the care and best interest of the animal; Authorize animal control officers’ emergency vehicles to use emergency lights and sirens when responding to life-threatening animal-related emergencies; and, Allow pet stores to only sell rescued life dogs, cats, or aquatic turtles. 	Transmitted to Congress 1/26/2023
Idaho	ID H 641	Would have altered the definition of “indirect supervision” to remove the requirement for written or oral treatment instructions	Sine Die Failed

		or an examination by a supervising veterinarian prior to treatment by a chiropractic allied health professional and allowed qualified chiropractic health professionals the ability to advertise and offer services to the public.	
Indiana	<u>IN SB 111</u>	Would have allowed an individual who performs teeth floating on horses to be exempted from the licensing or special permit requirements of the veterinary medicine laws if the individual had a valid certification from the International Association of Equine Dentistry or an equivalent certification approved by the board of veterinary medicine and acted under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian when administering a sedative drug to a horse before performing teeth floating on the horse.	Sine Die Failed
Iowa	<u>IA SF 2212</u>	Would have required the Board of Veterinary Medicine to grant registration to a licensed chiropractor to provide services to an animal if the chiropractor held a current, valid certification from the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association.	Sine Die Failed
Maryland	<u>MD HB 22/MD SB 67</u>	Prohibits declawing procedures unless performed for a therapeutic purpose.	Enacted 4/21/2022
Missouri	<u>MO SB 1058/ MO HB 1586</u>	Would have prohibited political subdivisions, such as cities and counties, from regulating the practice of veterinary medicine. Exceptions included: 1. Authority to regulate zoning or land use; 2. Regulation of fire codes; 3. Imposing taxes or license fees to practice veterinary practice; 4. Requiring vaccinations or licensing of animals; and, 5. Prohibiting animal abuse or otherwise regulating the general health, safety, and welfare within the practice of veterinary medicine.	Sine Die Failed
Missouri	<u>MO HB 2739</u>	Would have permitted an individual certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or International Veterinary Chiropractic Association to provide chiropractic care to an animal without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.	Sine Die Failed
New Hampshire	<u>NH HB 1226</u>	Would have prohibited the removal of claws of a cat by performing an onychectomy, partial or complete phalangectomy, or a tendonectomy, by any means, on a cat except when necessary to address the physical medical condition of the cat, such as an existing or recurring illness, infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in the claw that compromises the cat's health.	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	<u>NJ S 1925</u>	Would prohibit cropping or altering the tail or ears of a dog and establish such actions as an animal cruelty offense.	Introduced 3/3/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 1087</u>	Would prohibit a person from performing, or causing to be performed, an onychectomy (declawing) or flexor tendonectomy procedure by any means on a cat or other animal, unless the procedure is deemed necessary for a therapeutic purpose by a licensed veterinarian.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 1211</u>	Would prohibit a person from cropping or altering the tail or ears of a dog for cosmetic reasons.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 2578</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit declawing of a cat or other animal, unless a licensed veterinarian has determined that the procedure is necessary for a therapeutic purpose; and, 2. Require a licensed veterinarian who declaws a cat for therapeutic reasons to provide the Department of Health	Introduced 2/8/2022

		and the owner a written statement stating the purpose for performing the procedure.	
New Jersey	NJ AB 2612	Would exempt farriers and horseshoers from the licensed practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 2/8/2022
New York	NY SB 9445	Would have banned surgical devocalization on dogs and cats unless performed to treat or relieve a physical illness, disease, or injury, or correct a congenital abnormality.	Sine Die Failed
Ohio	OH HB 725	Would have prohibited any person, other than a licensed veterinarian, from performing medical and dental procedures on a dog.	Sine Die Failed
Ohio	ORC 4734.10	Adds “animal chiropractic” to the subjects recognized for chiropractic CE.	Finalized 5/1/2022
Rhode Island	RI HB 7574	Would have: 1. Prohibited the declawing of a cat or other animal, unless a licensed veterinarian has determined that the procedure is necessary for a therapeutic purpose; and, 2. Required a licensed veterinarian who declawed a cat for therapeutic reasons to provide the Department of Environmental Management and the owner a written statement stating the purpose for performing the procedure.	Sine Die Failed
Wisconsin	WI SB 1001	Would have prohibited a veterinarian or technician from performing a declawing procedure on a cat, except for therapeutic purposes.	Sine Die Failed

Small Business

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	IN HB 1199	Would have: 1. Made it a Class C infraction if an animal facility, including animal shelters and veterinary hospitals, failed to have: (1) certain automatic fire sprinkler systems; (2) certain automatic fire alarm systems; or (3) staff present at all times when dogs or cats are on the premises; and, 2. Required the state fire marshal to annually inspect certain animal facilities to determine compliance with fire sprinkler and fire alarm laws.	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	NJ A 127 NJ A 150	Would: 1. Allow any individual to voluntarily and anonymously deliver a domestic companion animal to a shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station and leave the animal with an employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the facility; 2. Not require the person to be liable for the care or disposition of the animal; 3. Not allow the employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station to refuse to accept any domestic companion animal; 4. Require each shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, and police station to post at its front entrance a conspicuous sign stating the hours of operation during which the facility is open and a person is on the premises to receive a domestic companion animal; the telephone number and address of a facility where a domestic companion animal may be delivered when the shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station is closed; and a warning against abandoning or relinquishing the domestic companion animal in any way other than delivering the animal to a person at a facility who can receive and care for the animal; and,	Introduced 1/11/2022

		5. Direct the Commissioner of Health to establish a public education and information program to disseminate the information on the requirements of this bill to every municipality, shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, police station, and public school with students in grades 3 through 12.	
New Jersey	NJ AB 382	Would require annual inspection of veterinary facilities.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	NJ AB 661	Would mandate kennels and veterinary facilities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide direct supervision of any indoor or outdoor common play area whenever two or more dogs are present in that area at the same time; 2. Retain records for each time a dog is released from or returned to its cage or enclosure, which must be maintained for at least one year, and made available upon request to the dog's owner and relevant governmental authorities; 3. Develop and implement a training program for all employees of the kennel or veterinary facility who handle or provide care for dogs or who supervise staff handling or providing such care; and, 4. Post a sign in a conspicuous location at or near the entrance to the kennel or veterinary facility indicating that the kennel or veterinary facility is required to comply with the supervision, record keeping, and employee training requirements of this bill. 	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	NJ SB 1208	Would allow equine and livestock veterinary facilities on preserved farmland under certain conditions.	Introduced 1/31/2022
Washington	WA 22-04-087	Allows entities to provide full veterinary services to low-income households instead of being limited to electronic identification, surgical sterilization, and vaccinations at a reduced cost.	Finalized 3/6/2023

Spaying | Neutering

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Hawaii	HI HB 1610	Would have established a spay and neuter fund that would have been supported by an income tax check-off.	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	NJ SB 179	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require a cat being released for adoption from an animal rescue organization facility, shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound to be spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian; 2. Require any community cat trapped and impounded at a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound, or trapped and taken to an animal rescue organization facility, to be spayed or neutered, ear tipped, and vaccinated against rabies before being returned to the location where the community cat was trapped or given to a person assuming ownership of the community cat; 3. Exempt cats from the spaying and neutering requirements if the cat is less than two months old; a licensed veterinarian determines the cat cannot be spayed or neutered for other health reasons affecting the cat; or the cat is placed in a foster home or transferred to another shelter, pound, kennel operating as a shelter or pound, or animal rescue organization facility by a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound; or the cat is to be euthanized; and, 4. Establish the "Compassion for Community Cats Fund" to provide grants to establish programs to humanely trap 	Introduced 1/11/2022

		community cats, sterilize, ear-tip, and vaccinate them against rabies, and return each feral cat to the location where the cat was trapped.	
New Jersey	<u>NJ SB 2202</u>	Would expand the reduced spaying and neutering program to any state resident who is disabled.	Introduced 3/16/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ AB 2275</u>	Would mandate, with limited exceptions, that: 1. No cat may be released for adoption from an animal rescue organization facility, shelter, or pound unless the cat has been spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian; and, 2. Any community cat trapped and impounded at a shelter or pound must be spayed or neutered, ear-tipped, and vaccinated against rabies before being returned to the location where the community cat was trapped.	Introduced 2/7/2022
Rhode Island	<u>RI HB 7080</u>	Would have provided that the trapping and subsequent release of any unowned feral or free-roaming cat for the purpose of spaying or neutering the cat would not be considered abandonment	Sine Die Failed
Virginia	<u>VA SB 89</u>	Would prohibit any pet store from selling a dog or cat unless the animal had been spayed or neutered.	Introduced 1/5/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 4577</u>	Would have established the “Community Cat Fund” to be used for grants to municipalities and counties to establish programs to humanely trap community cats, sterilize, ear-tip, and vaccinate against rabies.	Sine Die Failed

State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ HB 2346</u>	Would have: 1. Increased the number of members of the state veterinary medical examining board from nine to eleven members; and, 2. Increased the number of members who are not veterinarians and represent the livestock industry from three to five members.	Sine Die Failed
California	<u>CA SB 1029</u>	Requires the state Department of Public Health and the Department of Food and Agriculture to jointly establish and administer the One Health Program to develop a framework for interagency coordination in responding to zoonotic diseases and reducing hazards to human and nonhuman animal health following the One Health principles set forth by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.	Enacted 9/30/2022
Colorado	<u>CO HB 22-1235</u>	1. Creates a veterinary professional assistance program; 2. Requires credit hours of practice act jurisprudence as part of veterinarians' continuing education program and permitting veterinarians to take nonbiomedical courses which may include client communication, management, and leadership; 3. Establishes regulation of veterinary technicians and adding two veterinary technicians to the state board of veterinary medicine; and, 4. Authorizes a person who is not a licensed veterinarian to administer rabies vaccinations in a clinic setting under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, or through the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian if the person is working on behalf of an animal shelter for shelter-owned animals.	Enacted 6/8/2022
Georgia	<u>GA SB 604</u>	Would have made the state Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) an independent state agency attached to the Department of	Sine Die Failed

		Agriculture for administrative purposes only. The BVM is currently based out of the Secretary of State's office.	
Indiana	<u>IN SB 177</u> <u>/IN HB</u> <u>1148</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Makes the State Veterinarian the chief administrative officer of the board of veterinary medicine; 2. Creates the Indiana Center for Animal Policy to facilitate the coordination of regulatory duties of the state board of animal health and the board of veterinary medicine; and, 3. Allows the board to adopt emergency rules. 	Enacted 3/8/2022
Indiana	<u>IN HB 1021</u>	Lowers the number of members of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners from five to seven members with no more than three members being affiliated with the same political party.	Enacted 3/14/2022
Kansas	<u>KS HB</u> <u>2532</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further defined "direct supervision" to mean "in the immediate area and within audible or visual range of the animal patient and the person treating the patient or in the same general area in a field setting;" and, 2. Established a Probable Cause Committee, consisting of up to three members of the veterinary medical board, to review the potential impairment of a licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician and attempt to resolve matters through the adjudicative hearing process. 	Sine Die Failed
Kentucky	<u>KY HB 493</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Established rules for veterinary telehealth, including defining telemedicine, teletriage, teleconsulting, and teleadvice; 2. Clarified that a veterinarian must physically examine the animal or make medically appropriate visits to the premises within the past 12 months to establish a VCPR; 3. Prohibited a VCPR from being established solely by telehealth; 4. Required veterinary facilities to be inspected at least once every five years to ensure compliance; 5. Established basic standards for medical records; 6. Required criminal background checks for licensure; 7. Established title protections for licensed veterinary technicians; 8. Required veterinary facilities to register with the board and be inspected at least once every five years; and, 9. Established a program for the board to issue educational awards in an effort to alleviate veterinary shortages in agriculture. 	Sine Die Failed
Oregon	<u>OR HB</u> <u>4128</u>	Directs the Legislative Policy and Research Office to prepare a report concerning Oregon's current framework for preventing, monitoring, and responding to zoonotic disease.	Enacted 3/2/2022
Washington	<u>WA SB</u> <u>5753</u>	<p>Updates the Veterinary Board of Governors by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the number of members from seven to nine; 2. Increasing the number of member veterinarians from five to six; 3. Changing "lay person" to "member of the public," 4. Requiring a majority of the members to be present to represent a quorum (five present); 5. Requiring a majority of the quorum to carry a motion or resolution, adopt a rule, or pass a measure; and, 6. Requiring that no more than two members, instead of one, can be from the same congressional district. 	Finalized 3/30/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB</u> <u>4548</u>	<p>Would have required veterinarians who engage in the production of animal blood and blood component products solely for use in their practice or for the State Veterinary Blood Bank to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow current and best practices on animal blood banking; 	Sine Die Failed

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Ensure that the production of blood and blood component products is safe and not injurious to the donor animal's health; 3. Utilize bloodborne pathogen testing for all canine and feline blood donors in accordance with the best clinical practices in the veterinary field; 4. Maintain onsite records available for inspection by the Veterinary Medical Board including information documenting any history of blood draws or use of anesthesia on the animal, the number and date of donations collected, the estimated milliliters of blood collected per donation based on the weight in grams, any adverse events, and any complaints from owners regarding animals who donate blood or blood component product; and, 5. Obtain the informed written consent of the owner of the animal blood donor and keep a record of that consent. 	
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Taxes: Credits | Exemptions | Sale & Use

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Nebraska	NE LB 1264	Related to sales and use tax, would have removed the exemption for veterinary services, specialty services performed on livestock, and animal grooming performed by a licensed veterinarian or LVT in conjunction with medical treatment and include these activities as gross income received for animal specialty services.	Sine Die Failed
New Jersey	NJ S 2138	Would provide a gross income tax deduction for veterinary expenses.	Introduced 3/7/2022
Virginia	VA SB 517 / VA HB 551	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exempts veterinarians from sales and use tax on the purchase or prescription of medicines and drugs that are administered to patients within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; and, 2. Repeals provisions of the current law which state that a veterinarian dispensing or selling medicines or drugs on prescription shall be deemed to be the user or consumer of all such medicines and drugs. 	Enacted 4/11/2022
Virginia	VA HB 551	Creates an exemption for veterinarians regarding sales and use tax on the purchase or prescription of medicines and drugs that are administered to patients within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship by repealing provisions that made a veterinarian dispensing or selling medicines or drugs on prescription the user or consumer of all such medicines and drugs.	Enacted 4/11/2022

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship | Telemedicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	AK 12 AAC 68.215	<p>Defines a veterinarian-client-patient relationship as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting an initial physical meeting with the client and patient where the veterinarian performs a physical examination, and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient through medically appropriate visits to the premises where the patient is maintained; 2. Having sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the patient's medical conditions; 3. Assuming responsibility for making clinical judgments for the health of the patient and the need for medical therapy; 4. Maintaining patient records; and, 	Published 12/6/22

		<p>5. Providing oversight of treatment and being readily available to provide follow-up care in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen.</p> <p>Also:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires a VCPR to be maintained by electronic or telephonic means for 12 months per initial exam or premises visit; 2. Permits a licensed veterinarian or client to decline or discontinue a VCPR; 3. Does not require a VCPR if a licensed veterinarian provides emergency care in good faith; and, 4. Permits initial evaluations of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in regions of the state where travel is impossible and there is no locally available veterinarian. 	
Arkansas	<u>AR 209.05.22-001</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines telehealth, telemedicine, and teletriage; 2. Requires a veterinarian delivering telemedicine services to a patient in Arkansas to be licensed in Arkansas and have an established VCPR; and, 3. Requires a VCPR to be established by an in-person examination or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept, with an exception for emergencies, for all services provided by a veterinarian via telemedicine. 	Finalized 6/20/2022
Florida	<u>FL SB 448/ FL HB 723</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allowed a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to be established by telemedicine; and, 2. Permitted a veterinarian to prescribe controlled substances without examining a patient. 	Failed 3/14/2022
Hawaii	<u>HI HB 1598/ HI SB 2798</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines veterinarian-client-patient relationship and telehealth definitions and the use of telemedicine; 2. Authorizes the veterinary medical board to grant temporary courtesy and relief permits for out-of-state veterinarians; and, 3. Allows international veterinary school graduates to qualify for the licensure examination. 	Enacted 6/17/2022
Iowa	<u>IA ARC 6397C</u>	Requires a VCPR before a veterinarian may provide medical care or prescribe medications to a patient.	Finalized 7/13/2022
Michigan	<u>MI HB 5804</u>	Would have allowed a VCPR to be formed if a veterinarian recently examined the animal in person or obtained current knowledge of the animal through instrumentation and diagnostic equipment that can be transmitted electronically or through a referral from another veterinarian.	Sine Die Failed
Michigan	<u>MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933</u>	For the purposes of providing telemedicine services, would remove the allowance for a veterinarian to obtain sufficient knowledge of the animal patient through the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment.	Proposed 1/7/2022
Nevada	<u>NV R074-21</u>	<p>Codifies NV AB 200 (effective October 1, 2021) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining a “physical examination” as “physically proximate and hands-on, subjective and objective evaluation of the health status of an animal by a veterinarian through the use of observation, auscultation, palpation, percussion or manipulation” or, “as physically proximate to the group of animals and has subjectively and objectively assessed a representative sample of the animals’ for a group of like animals;” 2. Updating fees for applications and permits from the Board; 3. Increasing the required number of hours for continuing education over a 24-month period from at least 20 hours to 40 hours; 	Finalized 9/8/2022

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Updating veterinary facility permit renewal timelines; and, 5. Updating continuing education requirements for physical therapists and chiropractors performing services on an animal. 	
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 4570</u>	Establishes requirements for the practice of veterinary telehealth, including a requirement that a VCPR must be established by an in-person examination within the 12 months prior to offering the telehealth service, and at least every 12 months thereafter.	Enacted 3/28/2022

Veterinary Technicians Veterinary Assistants			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	<u>DE SB 228</u>	Allows veterinary technicians to administer rabies vaccinations to dogs, cats, and ferrets.	Enacted 10/3/2022
Maryland	<u>MD 15.14.16</u>	Removes the limitation on the number of credit hours that a registered veterinarian technician may obtain through online continuing education programs (annually and over a 3-year period) to maintain the person's registration with the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.	Finalized 3/6/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S 2571/</u> <u>MA S 219</u>	Would have established licensure for veterinary technicians.	Sine Die Failed
Minnesota	<u>MN SF 2935</u>	Would have established licensure for veterinary technicians.	Sine Die Failed
Montana	<u>MT 23-13-264</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines “support personnel” as unlicensed personnel employed by a licensed veterinarian; 2. Updates fee schedules for veterinary technician applications and renewals; 3. Requires veterinary technicians to obtain 20 hours of continuing education over a 24-hour period; 4. Updates the definition of “unprofessional conduct” to include failure to follow animal rabies prevention and control guidelines, dispensing or prescribing a VFD or a prescription drug without a valid VCPR, failure to adequately supervise LVTs and support personnel, failure to adequately follow the direction of a supervising veterinarian, going beyond scope of practice or permissible duties; 5. Establishes requirements for applicants for veterinary technician licensure; and, 6. Establishes duties technicians may perform under the immediate supervision of a licensed veterinarian. 	Finalized 9/23/2022
Nevada	<u>NV Revises provisions relating to veterinary technicians</u>	Establishes requirements relating to college and continuing education coursework for certain applicants for registration as a veterinary technician in training or for a license to practice as a veterinary technician.	Finalized 12/16/2022
New Hampshire	<u>NH Veterinary Nurses, Technicians, and Assistants</u>	Establishes rules for veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, and veterinary assistants. Including, definitions, testing requirements, and tasks allowed to be performed.	Published 7/21/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ S 4168</u>	Would regulate licensure of veterinary technicians by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requiring satisfactory proof that the applicant is qualified to be a veterinary technician in addition to a fee; 	Introduced 11/22/2021

		<p>2. Allowing veterinary technicians, under the responsible supervision of a licensed veterinarian, to perform any task for which the technician has been trained as delineated in the American Veterinary Medical Association’s essential tasks list for veterinary technician teaching programs; and</p> <p>3. Requiring the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue a license to a veterinary technician if the person passes the veterinary technician National Examination, or any other examination as required by the board; is at least 18 years of age; and has graduated from a college-level program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.</p>	
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 784</u>	Would establish licensure and regulation of veterinary technicians.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 2026</u>	Would reduce the credit hours needed for an Animal Health Technician from 18 hours to 12 hours and allow for a substitution of five years of experience for the education requirement.	Introduced 1/11/2022
Texas	<u>TX 22 TAC §571.18</u>	Permits only individuals who have received formal education at an accredited Veterinary Technician Institution and are licensed by the TBVME to hold the title of Licensed Veterinary Technician; all other employees of a veterinary medical establishment can hold the title of veterinary assistant.	Finalized 9/11/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 053</u>	Would have changed the term “Veterinary Technician” to “Veterinary Nurse.”	Sine Die Failed

Wildlife | Zoo Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	<u>CT HB 5293</u>	Would have prohibited the use of wild and exotic animals in traveling circuses.	Sine Die Failed
Illinois	<u>IL SB 3008</u>	Would have expanded provisions to make it unlawful to use animals, in addition to elephants, in a traveling animal act if they knowingly allow for the participation of an animal in a traveling animal act. The definition of “animal” would have included bear, cougar, elephant, jaguar, leopard (excluding a clouded leopard), lion, non-human primate, and tiger.	Sine Die Failed
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 3225 / MN SF 3562</u>	Would have appropriated \$31,000,000 from bond proceeds to the Minnesota Zoological Board to improve infrastructure and exhibits; design, renovating, constructing, and equipping the animal hospital building; and reopening the nocturnal trail.	Sine Die Failed
Rhode Island	<u>RI HR 8155</u>	Would have appropriated \$100,000 to fund a veterinarian at the Wildlife Clinic of Rhode Island.	Sine Die Failed
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 2059</u>	Would have provided a program to permit and train volunteers, called rehabilitators, to care for, protect and return injured wildlife to the wild. No rehabilitators would have been permitted to practice veterinary medicine.	Sine Die Failed