



State Legislative Update

March 2023

This issue of the State Legislative Update includes select summaries of bills and regulations tracked by the AVMA Division of State Advocacy and introduced in December. For more information, please contact Ms. Madeline Brezin, Policy Analyst, AVMA Division of State Advocacy (mbrezin@avma.org).

Cannabis

In **Rhode Island**, [RI S.B. 810](#) would make domestic pets with debilitating medical conditions 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](#).

Education

Supported by the **Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association**, [AR S.B. 476](#) would establish the Rural Veterinary Student Scholarship Program. A new law in **Utah** ([UT H.B. 184](#)) establishes the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$5,000,000.

Pet Insurance

Mississippi enacted [MS S.B. 2228](#), outlining standards for the sale, issuance, and renewal of pet insurance policies. Three states introduced legislation that would create a framework for pet insurance: **Maine** ([ME L.D. 1266](#)), **Pennsylvania** ([PA H.B. 660](#)), and **Rhode Island** ([RI S.B. 697](#) / [RI H.B. 5832](#)).

In **Louisiana**, [LA H.B. 579](#) would update the guidelines and definitions for providers of pet insurance.

State Programs

In **Arkansas**, legislation ([AR S.B. 403](#)) was introduced that would abolish several state boards, including the Veterinary Medical Examining Board (VMEB). It would transfer the power, duties, and functions of the VMEB to the Livestock and Poultry Commission.

In **New Jersey**, [NJ S.B. 3743](#) would add two new members to the state pharmacy board. One new member must be a pharmacist specializing in drug compounding and the other must be a "veterinarian pharmacist," which is undefined.

In **Texas**, [TX S.B. 1414](#)/[TX H.B. 1560](#) would temporarily attach the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to the Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for four years, grant the TDLR veto authority over the Board's rulemaking, and give TDLR the ability to replace the Board's Executive Director during the period of attachment. The **Texas Veterinary Medical Association** is working to ensure the Board retains full

control of rulemaking relating to health standard of care, scope of practice, and professional ethics issues, without TDLR veto authority.

Scope of Practice

Legislation in **Arizona** (AZ S.B. 1401) would permit an acupuncturist to become certified and treat an animal if the animal has been under the care of and referred by a licensed veterinarian.

In **Iowa**, IA S.F. 541/IA H.F. 640/IA H.F. 670 would change the definition of “practice of veterinary medicine” to include veterinary acupuncture, acuthery, acupressure, manipulative therapy based on techniques of osteopathy and chiropractic medicine, or other similar therapies as specified by the Board of Veterinary Medicine. The bill would also establish a definition for “animal massage” and exclude that term from the definition of “practice of veterinary medicine.”

NV S.B. 229 in **Nevada** would exempt equine dentistry from the practice of veterinary medicine.

A bill in **Pennsylvania** (PA H.B. 508) would prohibit declawing unless the procedure is deemed necessary for a therapeutic purpose by a veterinarian and create a reporting requirement for veterinarians who perform the procedure.

In **Texas**, TX H.B. 3397 would permit only a veterinarian or a chiropractor, certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or acting under the supervision of a veterinarian, to perform chiropractic treatment and musculoskeletal manipulation on an animal.

Taxes

A new law in **Virginia** (VA S.B. 985/VA H.B. 1563) exempts medicines and drugs sold to a veterinarian from the sales and use tax if the products are used for the treatment of livestock.

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) & Telemedicine

In **California**, two bills related to the VCPR have been introduced. CA S.B. 669 would permit a veterinarian to utilize an RVT under indirect supervision as an agent establishing a VCPR for the specific purposes of administering to an animal patient preventive or prophylactic vaccines, administering medications for the control or eradication of apparent or anticipated internal or external parasites. These tasks would be performed according to a written protocol under indirect veterinarian supervision and the veterinarian assumes all risk and liability for the actions of the RVT. CA A.B. 1399 would permit a VCPR to be established via telemedicine.

Supported by the **Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association**, a new law in **Kentucky** KY H.B. 167 updates the state’s practice act to clarify that a physical examination or medically appropriate in-person visit within the previous twelve months is required to establish a VCPR; establish rules for use of telehealth; add requirements for facility

registrations and voluntary facility inspections; and better define the roles of veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, and allied professionals in the delivery of animal health care.

Meanwhile, a **Michigan** Board of Veterinary Medicine rule change (MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933) was finalized to require an in-person examination to provide telemedicine services.

Veterinary Technicians

Legislation (IA S.F. 541/IA H.F. 640/IA H.F. 670) in **Iowa** would establish procedures to become a registered veterinary technician and would permit registered veterinary technicians to perform equine teeth floating. The bill would define “veterinary auxiliary personnel” as a veterinary assistant, registered veterinary technician, veterinary student, veterinary technician student, or a graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine who does not have a veterinary license or temporary permit, and provide the level of supervision required to delegate tasks to veterinary auxiliary personnel.

Xylazine

The AVMA has been working with members of Congress and stakeholder groups to address the increasing threat of illicit xylazine to public health while maintaining veterinarians’ access to this important drug. This month, the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act was introduced into Congress, culminating months of work by the AVMA, congressional offices, and many important stakeholders. The AVMA fully supports this bill’s provisions which would equip law enforcement with additional tools to stop illicit xylazine trafficking while maintaining veterinarians’ ability to use xylazine in its current prescription status. If it becomes law, the legislation will make the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or possession of illicit xylazine subject to Schedule III penalties under the federal Controlled Substances Act. Illicit use of xylazine includes any use, or intended use, in people and would address any diversion of xylazine from veterinary sources. At the same time, the legitimate veterinary uses would remain under their current prescription status. For full details, read the AVMA’s latest blog.

Multiple states have considered legislation relating to xylazine this session.

- Two bills that would schedule xylazine were introduced in **Illinois**: IL S.B. 2089 which would add xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and provide for penalties for the knowing manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver the drug, and IL H.B. 3873 would schedule xylazine as a Schedule II controlled substance.
- **Louisiana** LA H.B. 106 would add xylazine to Schedule II of the Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substances Law.
- In **New York**, NY S.B. 5439 / NY A.B. 5914 would designate xylazine as a Schedule III depressant controlled substance.
- An executive order was issued in **Ohio** directing the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy to immediately classify xylazine as a Schedule III controlled substance via emergency rule. The Board of Pharmacy is issuing enforcement waivers to make it clear distributors/manufacturers of xylazine do not have to

meet DEA-controlled substance requirements to ship the drug into Ohio. In addition, veterinarians will be provided lead time to take inventory, establish controlled drug security and record keeping, and obtain a Board of Pharmacy Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs (TDDD) license if they do not already have one. The **Ohio Veterinary Medical Association** had encouraged a delay in state scheduling to allow for federal legislation on xylazine to be enacted.

- **Rhode Island** [RI S.B. 738](#) / [RI H.B. 5922](#) would designate xylazine HCL as a Schedule V controlled substance.
- A new law in **West Virginia** ([WV S.B. 546](#)) designates xylazine as a Schedule IV controlled substance.

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	DE S.B. 71	Would create immunity for anyone who, in good faith, reports suspected animal cruelty to the Office of Animal Welfare.	Introduced 3/28/2023
Maine	ME L.D. 1216	Would create an animal cruelty task force to provide a coalition of trained professionals to assist with and enhance the enforcement of animal cruelty laws, including the investigation of cases of animal cruelty, one member of which must be a veterinarian.	Introduced 3/16/2023

Animal Disease Vaccination			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR H.B. 1629	Would permit an animal owner to confine an animal who has received a current vaccination against rabies when the animal has bitten a person.	Introduced 3/14/2023
Arkansas	AR H.B. 1676	Would require a dog that tested positive for canine brucellosis to have the test results reported to the Department of Agriculture and demonstrate a subsequent negative test before leaving the premises.	Introduced 3/17/2023
New Jersey	55 N.J.R. 515(a)	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow the State Veterinarian to ask the Board of Agriculture for permission to issue quarantines for specific animal diseases; 2. Allow the Department of Agriculture to stop the import of animals either suspected or confirmed of having a contagious or infectious disease or to set up specific entry requirements based upon the originating location of the animals; 3. Provide requirements for the prevention of vesicular stomatitis and provide the Department of Agriculture with ways to control the disease; 4. Recodify requirements for the eradication and control of equine infectious anemia; 5. Establish the New Jersey Contagious Equine Metritis Program; and, 6. Recodify biosecurity requirements, including the cleaning, disinfection, and disposal of any infected premises, protective clothing, or equipment. 	Proposed 3/20/2023 Closed for Comment 5/19/2023

North Carolina	Amending 02 NCAC 52B .0214	Would waive the requirement for entry permits and official health certificates for rabbits or any species in the order of Lagomorpha, including hare and pika, for exhibitions/shows if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A licensed and USDA-accredited veterinarian performs a health assessment outside of the exhibition/show prior to any comingling with other animals or entry to the event; 2. Any animal exhibiting any symptoms consistent with RHDV2 and any animals it traveled with are excluded from the event and return to point of origin; and, 3. Event organizers make available to the state agriculture and consumer services department event attendee contact information for disease investigation purposes. 	Introduced 3/15/2023 Closed for Comment 5/15/2023
Texas	TX H.B. 4816	Would prohibit the Executive Commissioner from adopting a rule requiring a person to report an incident involving an animal bite or scratch if the animal is domesticated and the person does not reasonably foresee the domesticated animal as capable of transmitting rabies.	Introduced 3/10/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 1577	Requires any person who confines a dog or cat for active signs of rabies or suspected rabies to allow the Virginia Department of Health access to the animal during its confinement.	Enacted 3/21/2023

Animal Advocates | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Massachusetts	MA S.B. 1126	Would establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a cat or dog and allow for non-economic damages based on the loss of companionship provided by the animal.	Introduced 1/13/2023
New York	NY S.B. 4084	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; 2. Provide for non-economic damages; and, 3. Create an exemption for veterinarians who may cause injury or death during the lawful treatment of a companion animal. 	Introduced 2/2/2023
New York	NY A.B. 1372	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; and, 2. Allow the court to consider the bond between owner and animal when deciding non-economic damages. 	Introduced 1/17/2023
New York	NY A.B. 3976	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; 2. Provide for non-economic damages; and, 3. Create a three-year statute of limitations for such claims. 	Introduced 2/8/2023
Rhode Island	RI H.B. 5918	Would create a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal.	Introduced 3/1/2023
Texas	TX S.B. 1682 / TX H.B. 3660	Would permit a defense to prosecutions when an actor, including a veterinarian, releases a stray or feral animal as part of a Trap-Neuter-Return Program.	Introduced 3/6/2023

Animal Shelters

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	CT Municipal Dog Pound Regulation s	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set standards of care for shelter animals, with exceptions for differences due to medical judgment by a veterinarian; 2. Require mortalities in shelters of animals associated with an investigation concerning animal neglect, animal abuse, or a 	Proposed 3/6/2023

		<p>suspected disease incident to be necropsied at the Connecticut Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory or by a state-licensed veterinarian;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Require all shelter animals who present with symptoms of a contagious disease to be examined by a veterinarian; and, Require shelters to maintain records of veterinary care an animal received there for at least two years following release. 	Closed for Comment 4/14/2023
Hawaii	HI S.C.R. 211/ HI S.R. 151	Would request the Hawaiian Humane Society develop a program to assist low-income pet owners to afford emergency care for their pets.	Introduced 3/10/2023
Minnesota	MN S.F. 2148/ MN H.F. 2013	Would appropriate \$15,000,000 for a grant to the Animal Humane Society to design and contract an animal care campus in St. Paul that includes a veterinary care center and teaching hospital, shelter space for 450 companion animals, and a rehabilitation center.	Introduced 2/27/2023
New York	NY A.B. 5168	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Require that animals found abandoned, not properly cared for, or lost, strayed, homeless, or unwanted be made adoptable unless a veterinarian certifies that such animal should be humanely destroyed for health reasons; and, Require shelters to make animals available for adoption for 90 days unless a veterinarian certifies that such animal(s) should be humanely destroyed for health reasons. 	Introduced 3/3/2023
Texas	TX H.B. 3439	<p>Would permit a veterinarian employed by a releasing agency to perform veterinary services if the family or individual's income is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not more than 80 percent of the median income of the area; Less than the federal poverty level for the relevant household size, and, Submits evidence of qualifications to the releasing agency. 	Introduced 3/3/2023
Texas	TX S.B. 1673 TX H.B. 3587	Would require the sterilization of adult animals seized and placed in the custody of a releasing agency more than once.	Introduced 3/6/2023
Utah	UT S.B. 108	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires an animal shelter to use sodium pentobarbital or a derivative as the exclusive method for the euthanasia of an animal; and, Requires an animal shelter that euthanizes animals to adopt a euthanasia training program for any person who conducts or assists with euthanasia to attend at least once every two years. 	Enacted 3/17/2023

Cannabis | Marijuana | Hemp

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Rhode Island	RI S.B. 810	Would make domestic pets with debilitating medical conditions eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.	Introduced 3/23/2023

Companion Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	FL S.B. 1492 / FL H.B. 1581	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Create a registration system with the state Department of Agriculture (FDACS) for dog breeders in the state; Require FDACS to adopt rules, in consultation with local governments and animal rescue groups, to set standards of care for dog breeding- including veterinary care; and, 	Introduced 3/2/2023

		3. Require, upon the death of a breeding female dog, the registrant to submit to FDACS a notarized letter from a veterinarian naming the dog's cause of death.	
New York	NY S.B. 5432	Would require veterinarians to disclose the cause of death for companion animals to the state department of agriculture when the pet's death is due to illness, disease, or congenital condition and the animal was purchased from a pet dealer within the past six months.	Introduced 3/3/2023
Texas	TX S.B. 1962 TX H.B. 4495	Would permit County Commissioners to adopt ordinances requiring a dog to be microchipped, except for dogs with medical reasons or a dog temporarily located in the county.	Introduced 3/9/2023

Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR S.B. 476	Would establish the Rural Veterinary Student Scholarship Program.	Introduced 3/24/2023
West Virginia	WV H.C.R. 84	Requests the state's Joint Committee on Government and Finance to study state aid for students of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 3/11/2023
Utah	UT H.B. 184	Establishes the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$5,000,000.	Enacted 3/14/2023

Emergency | First Responders

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Iowa	IA S.F. 539	Would permit emergency medical care providers to diagnose and treat severe injuries suffered by police service dogs while on duty.	Introduced 3/6/2023

Licensure

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	AK S.B. 83 / AK H.B. 85	Would change temporary "permit" to temporary "license" and remove the stipulation that a temporary license is valid after applying for examination and until the results of required examinations are published.	Introduced 2/24/2023
New Mexico	NM HB 384	Provides for expedited licensure of out-of-state veterinarians who are in good standing in their jurisdiction and have practiced veterinary medicine for at least five years.	Enacted 4/6/2023
New York	NY S.B. 5964	Would remove U.S. citizenship/permanent residence requirement for licensure in a variety of professions, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians.	Introduced 3/23/23

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	CO H.B. 23-1264	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the requirement for livestock to be inspected, tested, and quarantined under rules by the Commissioner of Agriculture; 2. Give the Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to condemn and destroy livestock but only when they, the state veterinarian, and the governor agree on the destruction; and, 3. Grant the Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to investigate all buildings, yards, pens, pastures, and other areas where any animals are kept, handled, or transported. 	Introduced 3/27/2023

Iowa	IA S.F. 473	Would establish the Livestock Health Advisory Council to support the research of livestock diseases conducted by the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.	Introduced 3/1/2023
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Pet Insurance

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Louisiana	LA H.B. 579	Would: 1. Establish definitions for “chronic condition,” “congenital anomaly or disorder,” “hereditary disorder,” “orthopedic conditions,” and “preexisting conditions” as it relates to pet insurance; 2. Establish guidelines for pet insurance providers; and, 3. Prohibit pet insurance providers from marketing wellness programs as pet insurance, nor make it a requirement for receiving insurance.	Introduced 3/31/2023
Maine	ME L.D. 1266	Would: 1. Establish pet insurance as a limited line property and casualty insurance that provides coverage for accidents and illnesses of pets; and, 2. Require a pet insurance producer to also hold a license for life insurance or accident and health or sickness insurance.	Introduced 3/21/2023
Mississippi	MS S.B. 2228	Establishes a legal framework for the sale, issuance, and renewal of pet insurance policies.	Enacted 3/10/2023
Pennsylvania	PA H.B. 660	Creates a framework for pet insurance in the Commonwealth.	Introduced 3/21/2023
Rhode Island	RI S.B. 697 / RI H.B. 5832	Would create a regulatory framework for pet insurance.	Introduced 3/1/2023

Pharmaceuticals | Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR H.B. 1662	Would: 1. Exempt the sale of veterinary drugs and medicine from the licensure requirements for a pharmacist and a pharmacy if the sale is based on a prescription of a licensed veterinarian; and, 2. Declare an emergency related to the FDA’s June 2023 guidance on over-the-counter (OTC) antibiotics used in the production of livestock and feed.	Introduced 3/16/2023
Illinois	IL S.B. 2089	Would add xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and provide for penalties for the knowing manufacture or delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver, Xylazine.	Introduced 2/9/2023
Illinois	IL H.B. 3873	Would schedule xylazine as a Schedule II controlled substance.	Introduced 2/17/2023
Louisiana	LA H.B. 106	Would add xylazine to Schedule II of the Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substances Law.	Introduced 3/14/2023
Montana	MT L.C. 2269	Would: 1. Require a permit to operate a veterinary retail facility; 2. Establish the registration and educational requirements of veterinary dispensing technicians; 3. Permit only veterinary prescription drugs to be dispensed by a veterinary retail facility for livestock only; and, 4. Prohibit an employee of a veterinary retail facility from dispensing controlled substances, compounding drugs for dispensing, repackaging veterinary prescription drugs for dispensing, or dispensing medication for extralabel use.	Introduced 3/27/2023

New York	<u>NY S.B. 5439 / NY A.B. 5914</u>	Would designate xylazine as a Schedule III depressant controlled substance.	Introduced 3/6/2023
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 738 / RI H.B. 5922</u>	Would designate xylazine HCL as a Schedule V controlled substance.	Introduced 3/1/2023
West Virginia	<u>WV S.B. 546</u>	Designates xylazine as a Schedule IV controlled substance.	Enacted 3/29/2023

Research| Research Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 4197</u>	Would require a research facility to offer their research animals for adoption through an animal rehoming organization or by an individual through an arrangement between the facility and the individual unless the animal is not suitable for adoption.	Introduced 3/8/2023
Virginia	<u>VA S.B. 1271 / VA H.B. 2042</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires state and private facilities using animal test methods to annually submit a report to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regarding the use of animals in biomedical or behavioral research for the preceding year; and, Establishes whistle-blower protections for any violations of any animal care requirements and the Animal Welfare Whistle Blower Reward Fund to provide monetary rewards to persons who have disclosed any such violations. 	Enacted 3/26/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 2348</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires animal testing facilities to register annually with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and, Requires animal testing facilities to report citations received for violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. 	Enacted 3/26/2023

Scope of Practice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ S.B. 1401</u>	Would permit an acupuncturist to become certified to treat animals if the acupuncturist is nationally certified for acupuncture and oriental medicine to treat animals and if the animal has been under the care of and referred by a licensed veterinarian for the condition being treated by the acupuncturist.	Amended 2/10/2023
Iowa	<u>IA S.F. 541</u> <u>IA H.F. 640</u> <u>IA H.F. 670</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize certain individuals to provide authorized veterinary medical services under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; Change the definition of “practice of veterinary medicine” to include veterinary acupuncture, acutherapy, acupressure, manipulative therapy based on techniques of osteopathy and chiropractic medicine, or some other similar therapies specified by the Board of Veterinary Medicine; Define “veterinary auxiliary personnel” as a veterinary assistant, registered veterinary technician, veterinary student, veterinary technician student, or graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine who does not have a veterinary license or temporary permit; Provide the level of supervision required to delegate tasks to veterinary auxiliary personnel; Establish the duties of a supervising veterinarian, registered veterinarian technician, registered veterinarian technician student, and a graduate of a foreign veterinary college; and, 	Introduced 3/7/2023

		6. Require the Board of Veterinary Medicine to issue certificates of registration to qualified veterinarian technicians and provides the procedures for certification.	
Nevada	<u>NV S.B. 229</u>	Would exempt equine dentistry from the practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 3/8/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 222</u>	Would criminalize anyone who is not a licensed veterinarian who crops, trims, or cuts off the whole or part of an ear or ears of an animal.	Introduced 3/8/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 508</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the performance of an onychectomy, a declawing, partial digital amputation, phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure by any means unless the procedure is deemed necessary for a therapeutic purpose by a veterinarian; 2. Create an exemption for the trimming of a nonviable claw husk and the placing a nonpermanent nail cap on a cat; and, 3. Create a requirement for a veterinarian that performs a prohibited procedure to file a report with the jurisdiction's animal control agency within ten business days; 4. Require a report to include a reason for the procedure, laboratory pathology report, the cat's information (microchip number, age, markings, gender, photo of face, and current address and phone number of owner); and, 5. Require a copy of the report to be provided to the owner of the cat. 	Introduced 3/17/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 3397</u>	Would permit only a veterinarian or a chiropractor, certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or acting under the supervision of a veterinarian, to perform chiropractic treatment and musculoskeletal manipulation on an animal.	Introduced 3/3/2023

Small Business

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	<u>FL Rule 61G18-18.001</u>	Would require the executor, administrator, personal representative, or survivor of a deceased veterinarian, to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain medical records concerning any patient of the deceased veterinarian for at least two years from the date of their death; 2. Within one month of the veterinarian's death, publish in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of the patients that the veterinarian's medical records are available to them from a specific person at a certain location; and, 3. Twenty-two months after the veterinarian's death, publish once a week for four consecutive weeks, in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided, a notice indicating to the owners of the patients that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed. 	Proposed 3/15/2023 Closed for Comment 4/5/2023
Florida	<u>FL Rule 61G18-18.0015</u>	Would require a veterinarian who terminates practice or relocates practice and is no longer available to patients or clients to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain medical records for at least three years after the date of last entry; 2. One month after termination/relocation publish in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of their patients that the medical 	Proposed 3/15/2023 Closed for Comment 4/5/2023

		<p>records are available to them from a specific person at a specific location; and,</p> <p>3. Three years after termination/relocation, publish once each week for four consecutive weeks, in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of their patients that the medical records may be disposed of or destroyed one month or later from the last day of the 4th week of publication of the notice.</p> <p>This does not require a veterinarian to destroy records, only permits destruction provided notice is given.</p>	
Indiana	<p><u>IN S.B. 277/</u> <u>IN H.B. 1389</u></p>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require animal facilities, including veterinary offices and overnight boarding facilities, constructed after June 23, 2023, to have at least one of the following: an operating fire alarm system designed by a fire alarm technician or staff on duty any time a dog or cat is present; and, 2. Allow the local fire department or the Department of Homeland Security to periodically inspect all animal facilities. 	Amended 2/22/2023
Massachusetts	<p><u>MA H.B. 2019 / MA S.B. 1309</u></p>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct the Commissioner of Agriculture to create rules mandating certain standards at kennels such as housing, space, veterinary care, nutrition, and hydration; and, 2. Create a committee to advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on the promulgation of rules for kennels, the committee must include one veterinarian or member of a veterinary medical association organized within the commonwealth. 	Introduced 1/19/2023
Texas	<p><u>TX H.B. 4069</u></p>	<p>Would require the BVME to adopt rules requiring a veterinarian to disclose a description and estimated price of proposed treatment before providing emergency medical treatment.</p>	Introduced 3/8/2023

State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	<p><u>AR S.B. 403</u></p>	<p>Would abolish several state boards, including the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, and transfer the powers, duties, and functions of the VMEB to the Livestock and Poultry Commission.</p>	Introduced 3/9/2023
Kentucky	<p><u>KY S.B. 46</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moves the Office of State Veterinarian's Division of Animal Health to the Division of Regulatory Field Services; 2. Updates the Division of Producer Services to the Division of Animal Health Programs; and, 3. Establishes the Division of Emergency Preparedness and Response. 	Enacted 3/17/2023
New Hampshire	<p><u>NH H.B. 2</u></p>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change membership of the Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) from seven to five members and from requiring five veterinarians to three; 2. Remove the current vacancy provision for the BVM to instead require members to serve a one-year term and hold an election every year; 3. Remove language allowing the BVM to examine the qualifications and fitness of applicants seeking licensure; 4. Remove language permitting the BVM to issue, renew, deny, suspend, or revoke licenses and temporary permits to practice veterinary medicine; and, 5. Remove language requiring physical therapists who practice on animals to be certified by the BVM. 	Introduced 3/1/2023

New Jersey	<u>NJ S.B. 3743</u>	Would add two new members to the state pharmacy board, one new member must be a pharmacist specializing in drug compounding and the other must be a veterinarian pharmacist.	Introduced 3/30/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC S.B. 282</u>	Would require the Veterinary Medical Board to send a notice one week prior to a veterinary facility inspection with a checklist of standards the inspector may issue a violation for failing to meet.	Introduced 3/9/2023
Ohio	<u>OH Impairment and Safe Haven Program</u>	Would: 1. Allow the Veterinary Board of Medicine to establish a confidential, non-disciplinary program for the evaluation and treatment of veterinarians and veterinary technicians who need assistance with a potential or existing mental health/ substance use disorder; and, 2. Allow the Veterinary Board of Medicine to refer professionals to that program.	Introduced 3/6/2023 Closed for Comment 4/12/2023
Texas	<u>TX S.B. 1414/</u> <u>TX H.B. 1560</u>	Would: 1. Temporarily attach the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to the Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for a period of four years; 2. Grant TDLR the ability to replace the Board's Executive Director during the period of attachment; and, 3. Move the Board's next full sunset date up to 2027 instead of 2029.	Introduced 3/1/2023
Texas	<u>TX 4 TAC §§42.1</u>	Would require the Animal Health Commission to: 1. Select participants of the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program; 2. Establish criteria necessary for qualification as a rural sponsor; and, 3. Govern agreements of financial support between the rural sponsor and an eligible participant.	Introduced 2/27/2023

Taxes & Credits | Exemptions | Sale & Use

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Virginia	<u>VA S.B. 985 /</u> <u>VA H.B. 1563</u>	Exempts medicines and drugs sold to a veterinarian if used or consumed directly in the care, medication, and treatment of agricultural production animals or for the resale to a farmer for the direct use in producing an agricultural product for market, and others, from the sales and use tax.	Enacted 3/26/23

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship | Telemedicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	<u>CA S.B. 669</u>	Would: 1. Require a veterinarian to be personally acquainted with the care of the animal by an examination of the animal or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and, 2. Allow a veterinarian, to permit an RVT to administer to an animal patient preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications for the control or eradication of an apparent or anticipated internal or external parasite, to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship by indirect supervision of the RVT, while working in unlicensed or underserved communities, and the veterinarian assumes all risk for acts of the RVT.	Amended 3/21/2023
California	<u>CA A.B. 1399</u>	Would:	Amended 3/16/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to be established via telemedicine; 2. Prohibit a veterinarian from issuing a prescription lasting more than six months; and, 3. Require a veterinarian to perform an examination, in person or via telemedicine, to refill a patient's prescription. 	
Kentucky	<u>KY H.B. 167</u>	<p>Updates the Veterinary Practice Act by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarifying that a physical examination or medically appropriate in-person visit within the previous twelve months is required to establish a VCPR; 2. Permitting an established VCPR to extend to another veterinarian employed in the same registered facility who is also licensed to practice and has sufficient knowledge in the medical record to make a decision; 3. Prohibiting a VCPR from being established solely by telehealth means; 4. Creating a new permit class for allied animal health professionals practicing animal chiropractic and defining "animal chiropractic"; 5. Providing title protection for licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians; 6. Establishing rules for telehealth, records retention, and veterinary facilities; 7. Providing the board increased authority to take action against those in violation of the Practice Act and those offering veterinary services without a board credential; 8. Establishing license renewal procedures for veterinary technicians, animal euthanasia specialists, and veterinary facilities; 9. Updating the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners member to eleven members (seven veterinarians, one public member, one veterinary technician, one allied animal health professional permittee, and the Commissioner of Agriculture of their designee); and, 10. Exempting from the practice of veterinary medicine the owner of an animal or their agent euthanizing their livestock. 	Enacted 3/24/2023
Michigan	<u>MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires that a veterinarian practicing telehealth Have sufficient, current knowledge of the animal patient to render telehealth services demonstrated by satisfying one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Except in the case of an emergency, have recently examined the animal patient in person; or, b. Have conducted medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept; 2. Requires that an applicant seeking licensure by endorsement hold a license in good standing and be actively practicing in another state or province of Canada; 3. Creates a regulatory chart for licensure by endorsement requirements based off years of experience; 4. Amends regulatory chart for re-licensure requirements; 5. Allows the delegation of an act, task, or function that falls within the practice of veterinary medicine to a veterinary student or veterinary assistant who is qualified to perform the act, task, or function if the veterinarian has examined the animal patient to determine appropriate treatment and maintains a degree of close proximity necessary to observe, monitor, and provide the supervision required; and 	Effective 3/22/2023

		6. Requires veterinarians to provide copies of complete medical records upon written or oral request from the client.	
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Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR H.B. 1566	Prohibits a Veterinary Technician Specialist from receiving compensation for performing Specialized Veterinary Technology.	Introduced 3/7/2023 Enacted 3/30/2023
Arkansas	AR H.B. 1673	Would allow a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with a pre-veterinary emphasis in lieu of a degree from an AVMA CVTEA accredited program as part of an application for certification as a veterinary technician.	Introduced 3/17/2023
Iowa	IA H.F. 670	Would: 1. Permit the veterinary board to issue temporary permits to members of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine while waiting for a permanent license; 2. Establish procedures to become a registered veterinary technician; 3. Permit registered veterinary technicians to perform equine teeth floating; 4. Exclude the practice of animal massage from veterinary medicine; and, 5. Include livestock in the definition of "animal."	Introduced 3/17/2023
Minnesota	MN S.F. 2128	Would: 1. Define "remote supervision," veterinary technology," and "direct supervision;" 2. Establish licensure requirements for veterinary technicians; and, 3. Establish institutional licensure and scope of practice for veterinarians employed by the University of Minnesota.	Amended 3/22/2023
South Carolina	SC S.J.R. 641	Would approve regulations from the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation - Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners: 1. Defining "emergency animal patient" and "imaging"; 2. Updating and clarifying practice standards for licensed veterinary technicians; 3. Revising and moving practice standards for unlicensed veterinary aides; and, 4. Clarifying existing regulations in accordance with the statutes for licensure and examinations for veterinarians.	Introduced 3/15/2023

Wildlife | Zoo Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Kentucky	KY R. 75	Would: 1. Create rules for wildlife rehabilitation permits; 2. Allow veterinarians to temporarily possess, stabilize, or euthanize sick and injured wildlife, only for the purpose of providing immediate critical care; and, 3. Require veterinarians who do not possess wildlife rehabilitation permits to transfer wildlife to a permitted rehabilitator within 24 hours of the animal being stabilized, if the animal no longer needs critical care unless the animal is euthanized.	Proposed 1/10/2023
Kentucky	KY R. 110	Would allow administration of drugs:	Proposed 2/15/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To captive wildlife under the direction of a veterinarian with a VCPR; 2. To non-commercial captive cervids or critically ill or injured wildlife by a veterinarian; or, 3. At a wildlife rehabilitation facility by a permitted wildlife rehabilitator under the direction of a veterinarian with a VCPR. 	Closed for Comment 4/30/2023
Wisconsin	<u>WI S.B. 126</u> / <u>WI A.B. 124</u>	Would exempt zoos and aquariums operated by the state, a city, village, or county, or are an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association from the prohibition on the possession, exhibition, sale, and purchase of wild animals without a license from the Department of Natural Resources.	Introduced 3/8/2023