



## State Legislative Update

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

### Licensure

**Delaware** proposed regulation DE 3300 which would add the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence ("PAVE") as another method to meet the requirements for licensure.

**Maryland** enacted MD S.B. 390/MD H.B. 325, which requires the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (the Board) to create an expedited process for a veterinarian licensed in another state to become licensed in Maryland. This new law also allows the Board to issue a license to an animal control facility to allow the facility to administer drugs to sedate and/or euthanize animals and rabies vaccines. Veterinary technicians or other clinical staff who work in an animal shelter or an animal control facility are permitted to administer rabies vaccines if the animal is under the custody of the shelter or control facility, the veterinarian who signs the certificate has ensured they're properly trained, and the administrator of the vaccine is identified on the certificate.

**North Carolina** proposed 21 NCAC 66 .0206, which would reduce continuing education hours for veterinarians from 20 hours to 15 hours and revise continuing education requirements to allow a portion of hours to be earned through live online interactive presentations for veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians.

### Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

After significant efforts from the **Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association**, AK H.B. 56 has passed the legislature to exempt veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database and is awaiting transmittal to Governor Mike Dunleavy for signature.

### **Scope of Practice**

A new law in **Arizona**, [AZ S.B. 1194](#), permits a licensed veterinarian to appoint a person, who is not a licensed veterinarian, as a certified rabies vaccinator to participate in county rabies control programs so long as the person is trained by an in-person training offered by the state veterinarian.

**Michigan** introduced [MI H.B. 4674](#), which would prohibit the performance of an onychectomy, a partial or complete phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure, or any other surgical procedure that prevents normal functioning of the claws, toes, or paws, on a cat unless for a therapeutic purpose. The bill defines “therapeutic purpose” as a physical medical condition of a cat, including, but not limited to, an existing or recurring illness, infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in the claw of a cat that compromises the cat's health and does not include a cosmetic or aesthetic reason or a reason of convenience in keeping or handling a cat.

### **State Programs**

In **Texas**, [TX S.B. 1414](#) was sent to Governor Greg Abbott and would attach the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME) to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) until 2027. The original version of the bill would have allowed TDLR to veto any rule passed by the TBVME during the attachment period, but the **Texas Veterinary Medical Association** was able to successfully advocate for this clause to exclude rules relating to medical issues.

Also in **Texas**, [TX H.B. 4069](#) awaits signature from the governor and will require the TBVME to adopt rules requiring a veterinarian to disclose the description and estimated price of proposed treatment before providing emergency medical treatment.

### **Taxes**

Enacted in **Florida**, [FL S.P.B. 7062/FL H.B. 7063](#) adds pet supply items with certain price limits to the state's disaster preparedness tax holiday qualifying items list.

Legislation in **New Jersey** ([NJ S. 3852/NJ A. 5392](#)) would establish an annual ten-day sales tax holiday for certain sales of disaster preparedness supplies and equipment, including pet-related supplies for companion animals.

In **New Jersey**, [NJ S. 3865/NJ A. 5454](#) would exempt sales of pet food and medication purchased for pets from sales and use tax.

### **Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) and Telemedicine**

Despite opposition by the AVMA and **Arizona Veterinary Medical Association**, legislation was enacted in **Arizona** to permit a VCPR to be established via electronic means. The introduced version of the bill would have permitted the VCPR to be established via audio-only telephone or video-based communication, but AZ S.B.1053 was amended and the enacted version permits a veterinarian to obtain current knowledge of the animal via real-time electronic examination using an audio-video based communication medium. It also requires a veterinarian to obtain informed consent and requires a number of disclosures to the client. For an electronically established VCPR, a prescription for drugs or medications may be issued for a course of treatment that is up to 14 days, instead of the initially proposed 30 days. Such a prescription may be renewed one time based upon an additional electronic examination, and it may not be further renewed without an in-person examination. Controlled substances may not be prescribed without an in-person examination. More information on AVMA's telemedicine policy can be found [here](#).

Legislation introduced in **New York**, NY A. 6745, would allow veterinarians to provide telehealth services and defines "telehealth." In order to practice telehealth under this bill, providers would have to have sufficient knowledge of the patient by recently examining the animal in person, obtaining current knowledge of the animal through instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically, or by conducting medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept. Providers would also be required to make themselves readily available to the patient for follow-up veterinary services or ensure there is another suitable provider available for follow-up care. Veterinarians practicing telehealth would be allowed to prescribe drugs as long as the veterinarian is a prescriber acting within the scope of their practice and in compliance with existing law.

### **Veterinary Technicians**

**New Hampshire's** Vet 800 went into effect this month. It establishes rules for veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, and veterinary assistants. It outlines tasks allowed to be performed by veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, students, and veterinary assistants with required levels of supervision, and creates a testing requirement for the VTNE.

### **Xylazine**

The **Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association** championed efforts to amend legislation (LA H.B. 645) that would have scheduled xylazine as a controlled substance. The amended version of the bill will criminalize the unlawful production, manufacturing,

distribution, or possession of xylazine, but exclude its legitimate use in veterinary practice. The legislation is currently progressing through the legislative process.

Multiple bills were introduced in **New Jersey** ([NJ S. 3902/NJ A. 5448](#) and [NJ A. 5488](#)), which would classify xylazine as a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine. NJ A. 5488 would also require veterinarians to access the state's prescription drug monitoring program any time they issue a prescription for xylazine.

**Tennessee** enacted [TN H.B. 1242/TN S.B. 1398](#), which criminalizes possessing, manufacturing, delivering, or selling xylazine, but exempts legitimate veterinary practice and possession by non-veterinarians with valid prescriptions from a licensed veterinarian.

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<b>Animal Abuse   Cruelty</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<a href="#">MN S.F. 3324 / MN H.F. 3300</a>	Would: 1. Establish an Office of Animal Protection to assist in the enforcement of animal cruelty statutes with regionally establish animal units; 2. Require the Office to assist criminal justice partners in investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases; 3. Require the Office to collaborate with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and other agencies to collect, maintain, and analyze data related to animal cruelty cases; and, 4. Require the Office to educate the public on recognizing and reporting animal cruelty.	Introduced 5/8/2023
<b>New York</b>	<a href="#">NY A. 6863</a>	Would prohibit dog, cat, and rabbit dealers/breeders from operating in-state and online to do business in New York unless they can prove to the government: 1. The breeder of the animals performs an adequate level of care; 2. The animals have received routine veterinary care throughout their lives and the care was provided by a veterinarian; 3. The animals were raised with an acceptable wellness plan; 4. The animals were raised in safe, enriching living spaces; 5. The source animals used by the breeder were raised in an environment with plans for a healthy life beyond their breeding cycles and that they will not be sold, given, or subjected to research facility; and, 6. The breeders have participated in regularly scheduled continuing education on animal care and welfare.	Introduced 05/08/23
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<a href="#">PA H.B. 1114</a>	Would prohibit transport in a mobile or traveling housing facility for participation in a traveling animal act and defines "mobile or traveling housing facility," "performance," "performance animal," and "traveling animal act."	Introduced 5/5/2023

Washington	<a href="#"><u>WA H.B. 1234</u></a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defines “minimum care” as care sufficient to preserve the physical and mental health and well-being of an animal and includes food of sufficient nutrition, potable water of drinkable temperature, sufficient shelter, reasonable veterinary care, and access to an area sufficient for exercise;</li> <li>2. Permits a seized animal to be placed into the custody of an animal care and control agency, foster care, non-profit humane society, rescue organization, or animal sanctuary but constructive custody belongs to the seizing agency; and,</li> <li>3. Permits a custodial agency to authorize a veterinarian or veterinary technician to euthanize a seized animal that is severely injured, sick, diseased, or suffering for humane reasons.</li> </ol>	<b>Enacted 5/4/2023</b>
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### Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<a href="#"><u>AZ S.B. 1194</u></a>	Permits a licensed veterinarian to appoint a person, who is not a licensed veterinarian, as a certified rabies vaccinator to participate in county rabies control programs so long as trained by an in-person training offered by the state veterinarian.	<b>Enacted 5/11/2023</b>

### Animal Shelters

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	<a href="#"><u>DE S.B. 129</u></a>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update standards of care for animal shelters;</li> <li>2. Require animals be vaccinated against rabies before adoption or release;</li> <li>3. Require animals who are received overnight to receive their vaccines by noon the following day;</li> <li>4. Require animals to be evaluated for infectious disease or illness/injury requiring emergency care on intake and a full exam to be performed within 48 hours of intake, prior to adoption; and,</li> <li>5. Require animals who have been in the shelter for a year or longer to receive a veterinary exam every 12 months.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/12/23

### Companion Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Pennsylvania	<a href="#"><u>PA S.B. 746</u></a>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Require kennels to have an isolation plan for dogs coming from out of state or out of the country that is approved by a veterinarian;</li> <li>2. Require all dogs transported into the commonwealth to have a certificate of vaccination and an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection;</li> <li>3. Require all dogs transported into the state and kept in a non-boarding kennel to receive initial doses of Distemper, Adeno, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus (DAPP) certified by a veterinarian;</li> <li>4. Create a new offense for harboring a dangerous dog and repeal the former offense, new offense has an exception for veterinarians and their staff when acting in the scope of their duties; and,</li> <li>5. Create an appeals process for an order of seizure and destruction of a dangerous dog.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/31/2023

<b>Education</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<a href="#"><u>TX H.B. 2026</u></a>	Would remove the requirement for a veterinarian to have graduated from a Texas-based veterinary school in order to participate in the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program.	<b>Sent to Executive 5/30/2023</b>

<b>Licensure</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Delaware</b>	<a href="#"><u>DE 3300</u></a>	Would add the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence ("PAVE") as another method to meet the requirements for licensure.	Proposed 5/1/2023  Closed for Comment 6/28/2023
<b>Maryland</b>	<a href="#"><u>MD S.B. 390/MD H.B. 325</u></a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Requires the board to create an expedited process for a veterinarian licensed in another state to become licensed in Maryland;</li> <li>2. Allows the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue and regulate a license to an animal control facility to allow the animal control facility to administer drugs to sedate and/or euthanize animals and rabies vaccines;</li> <li>3. Allows a veterinary technician or other clinical staff who work in an animal shelter or an animal control facility to administer rabies vaccines if the animal is under the custody of the shelter or control facility, the veterinarian who signs the certificate has ensured they're properly trained, and the administrator of the vaccine is identified on the certificate; and,</li> <li>4. Requires the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to report to the state's general assembly before December 1, 2023, on the status of establishing an expedited licensure process for out-of-state veterinarians.</li> </ol>	<b>Enacted 5/08/2023</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<a href="#"><u>NC Occupational Licensing Boards and Commissions, Veterinary Medical Board</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>21 NCAC 66 .0206</u></a>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce continuing education hours for veterinarians from 20 hours to 15 hours; and</li> <li>2. Revise continuing education requirements to allow a portion of hours to be earned through live online interactive presentations for veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians.</li> </ol>	Proposed 5/1/2023  Closed for Comment 6/30/2023  Proposed Effective Date 9/1/2023

<b>Pet Insurance</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Delaware</b>	<a href="#"><u>DE H.B. 156</u></a>	Would establish a comprehensive framework for the regulation of pet insurance in the state.	Introduced 5/12/23

<b>Pharmaceuticals   Prescription Drug Monitoring Program</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Alaska</b>	<a href="#"><u>AK S.B. 51/</u></a> <a href="#"><u>AK H.B. 56</u></a>	Would exempt veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database.	<b>Sent to Executive 5/31/2023</b>
<b>Louisiana</b>	<a href="#"><u>LA H.B. 645</u></a>	Would establish the crime of unlawful production, manufacturing, distribution, or possession of xylazine.	Introduced 5/3/2023
<b>New Jersey</b>	<a href="#"><u>NJ S. 3902/NJ A. 5448</u></a>	Would: 1. Classify xylazine as Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine; and, 2. Direct the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety to promulgate rules and regulations to implement this bill.	Introduced 05/09/23
<b>New Jersey</b>	<a href="#"><u>NJ A. 5488</u></a>	Would: 1. Classify xylazine as Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine; 2. Make anyone who manufactures, distributes, or dispenses xylazine, other than a veterinarian in the ordinary course of professional veterinary practice, who violates the state's manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing law strictly liable for the death of someone resulting from the drug; 3. Require a veterinarian to access the state's prescription drug monitoring program any time they issue a prescription for xylazine; and, 4. Direct the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety to promulgate rules and regulations to implement this bill.	Introduced 05/12/23
<b>New York</b>	<a href="#"><u>NY S. 7459/NY A. 6996</u></a>	Would amend the requirement that dispensing information be provided by veterinarians to: 1. Apply only to an initial prescription; 2. Apply only to cats, dogs, and rabbits for use outside the office instead of animals in or out of the office; and, 3. Allow the information to be provided in writing or orally, as long as the method is noted in the patient's record.	Introduced 05/10/23
<b>North Carolina</b>	<a href="#"><u>NC H 190</u></a>	Would add gabapentin to the controlled substance reporting system.	Substituted 5/31/2023
<b>Tennessee</b>	<a href="#"><u>TN H.B. 1242/TN S.B. 1398</u></a>  As Amended by <a href="#"><u>SA 490</u></a>	Criminalizes possessing, manufacturing, delivering, or selling xylazine, but exempts legitimate veterinary practice and possession by non-veterinarians with valid prescriptions from a licensed veterinarian	<b>Enacted 05/24/2023</b>

<b>Research  Research Animals</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<a href="#"><u>PA S.B. 658</u></a>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prohibit recipients of Commonwealth funds from using those funds to support medically unnecessary research on animal subjects that are classified under pain and distress categories "D" or "E" by the USDA;</li> <li>2. Prohibit recipients of Commonwealth funds from using those funds to devocalize an animal, procure a devocalized animal, or perform research on a devocalized animal;</li> <li>3. Require animal testing facilities that receive commonwealth funds to place animals no longer needed for research up for adoption as long as doing so does not pose a risk to public health;</li> <li>4. Would create immunity from liability for harm caused by or a defect suffered by an animal subject placed, in good faith, for adoption;</li> <li>5. Require facilities to keep an offer for release open for at least two weeks before euthanizing an animal;</li> <li>6. Require entities who bid for a commonwealth project whose bids involve animal research to disclose information relating to how those funds are spent on the project; and,</li> <li>7. Require the State Treasurer to annually submit a report to the legislature about animal research in the Commonwealth.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/11/23
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<a href="#"><u>PA S.B. 701</u></a>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prohibit the sale of cats and dogs by dealers or kennels who have received specific citations from the USDA;</li> <li>2. Require animal research facilities to release animals they are no longer using for testing to a releasing agency for adoption as long as the animal does not pose a risk to public health;</li> <li>3. Require any person, kennel, or animal testing facility to keep an animal available for adoption for at least 21 days before euthanizing the animal;</li> <li>4. Require any person, kennel, or animal testing facility to submit a report annually to the State about adoption efforts;</li> <li>5. Create a recordkeeping requirement for kennels and people engaged in raising dogs and cats for research purposes; and,</li> <li>6. Create whistleblower protections for employees of any person, dealer, kennel, animal testing facility, private entity, State agency, or institution of higher education who, in good faith, reports violations of this act.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/15/23
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<a href="#"><u>PA S.B. 702</u></a>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide for revocation or refusal of kennel licenses for violations of 7 U.S.C. Ch. 54 (relating to transportation, sale, and handling of certain animals), 18 U.S.C. § 48 (relating to animal crushing), or similar conduct;</li> <li>2. Prohibit the sale of cats and dogs by dealers or kennels who have received specific citations from the USDA; and,</li> <li>3. Create whistleblower protections for employees of any person, dealer, kennel, animal testing facility, private entity, State agency, or institution of higher education who, in good faith, reports violations of this act.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/15/23



<b>Scope of Practice</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Arizona</b>	<a href="#"><u>AZ S.B. 1401</u></a>	Would permit an acupuncturist to treat animals if the acupuncturist is nationally certified for acupuncture and oriental medicine to treat animals under certain conditions, including that the animal has been under the care of and referred by a licensed veterinarian for the condition being treated by the acupuncturist.	<b>Sent to Executive 5/30/2023</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<a href="#"><u>MI H.B. 4674</u></a>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prohibit performance of an onychectomy, a partial or complete phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure, or any other surgical procedure that prevents normal functioning of the claws, toes, or paws, on a cat unless for a therapeutic purpose; and,</li> <li>2. Define “therapeutic purpose” as a physical medical condition of a cat, including, but not limited to, an existing or recurring illness, infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in the claw of a cat that compromises the cat's health and does not include a cosmetic or aesthetic reason or a reason of convenience in keeping or handling a cat.</li> </ol>	Introduced 5/25/2023

<b>Small Business</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Link</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Florida</b>	<a href="#"><u>FL Rule 61G18-18.001</u></a>	Requires the executor, administrator, personal representative, or survivor of a deceased veterinarian to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Retain medical records concerning any patient of the deceased veterinarian for at least two years from the date of their death;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>4. Send electronic notifications, to all clients that have been seen within the last three years a notice indicating the termination or relocation of the practice and that the veterinarian's medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years; and,</li> <li>5. Maintain the existing practice's website for two years posting a notice indicating to the owners that the medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years.</li> </ol>	<b>Effective 5/23/2023</b>
<b>Florida</b>	<a href="#"><u>FL Rule 61G18-18.0015</u></a>	Requires a veterinarian who terminates practice or relocates practice and is no longer available to patients or clients to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Retain medical records for at least three years after the date of last entry;</li> <li>2. No later than one month after termination/relocation publish in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the</li> </ol>	<b>Effective 5/23/2023</b>

		<p>county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of their patients that the medical records are available to them from a specific person at a specific location;</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 fourth week of publication of the notice (this does not require a veterinarian to destroy records, only permits destruction provided notice is given); and,</p> <p>4. Send electronic notifications, to all clients that have been seen within the last three years a notice indicating the termination or relocation of the practice and that the veterinarian's medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years.</p>	
Indiana	<u>IN S.B. 277/IN H.B. 1389</u>	<p>1. Requires animal facilities, including veterinary offices and overnight boarding facilities, constructed or remodeled after June 23, 2023, to have either an operating fire alarm system designed by a fire alarm technician or staff on duty any time a dog or cat is present; and,</p> <p>2. Allows the local fire department or the Department of Homeland Security to periodically inspect all animal facilities.</p>	Enacted 5/01/2023
North Carolina	<p><u>NC Occupational Licensing Boards and Commissions, Veterinary Medical Board</u></p> <p>21 NCAC 66 .0108</p> <p>And</p> <p>21 NCAC 66 .0901-.0905</p>	<p>21 NCAC 66 .0108 would remove the veterinary student preceptee registration fee and add veterinary facility permit fees.</p> <p>21 NCAC 66 .0901-.0905 would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a framework for veterinary facility permits;</li> <li>2. Require veterinary facilities to have a supervising veterinarian to alert owners of instances of non-compliance with board rules;</li> <li>3. Create a disciplinary process for veterinary facility permits; and,</li> <li>4. Create a process for reinstatement of veterinary facility permits following suspension or revocation.</li> </ol>	<p>Proposed 5/1/2023</p> <p>Closed for Comment 6/30/2023</p> <p>Proposed Effective Date 11/2/2023</p>
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B.1099</u>	Would allow the Commonwealth's Department of Agriculture to require anyone who offers domestic animal, commercial feed, or pet food for sale to the public to provide a posted notice on the premises with information on a dangerous transmissible disease.	Introduced 5/3/2023

### State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	<u>IN S. 0004</u>	Permits a veterinarian, and other health-related professionals, to be a member of the local board of health for counties with a population of less than two hundred thousand.	Enacted 05/04/2023

<b>Montana</b>	<a href="#">MT H.B. 87</a>	Revises laws related to licensing boards, including the Board of Veterinary Medicine by decreasing the number of board members from seven to five (three veterinarians, one technician, and one public member).	<b>Enacted 5/19/2023</b>
<b>New Jersey</b>	<a href="#">NJ A. 5364</a>	Would create the New Jersey Dog Trainer Licensure Board to regulate the practice of dog training, and one member must be a veterinarian.	Introduced 05/08/23
<b>Texas</b>	<a href="#">TX S.B. 1414/ TX H.B. 1560</a>	Would move the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to the Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for 4 years.	<b>Sent to Executive 5/29/2023</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<a href="#">TX S.B. 1850/ TX H.B. 3945</a>	Requires the governor to designate a veterinarian member of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to serve as the presiding officer of the board.	<b>Enacted 5/27/2023</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<a href="#">TX H.B. 4069</a>	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.	<b>Sent to Executive 5/26/2023</b>

## Taxes

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
<b>Florida</b>	<a href="#">FL S.P.B. 7062/FL H.B. 7063</a>	Includes the purchase of non-commercial use of cat and dog food, over-the-counter pet medications, portable kennels/pet carriers, leashes, collars, muzzles, food and water bowls, litter, litter pans, pet waste bags, pet pads, hamster or rabbit substrate, and pet beds (with certain price limits) in the state's disaster preparedness tax holiday qualifying items list.	<b>Enacted 5/26/2023</b>
<b>New Jersey</b>	<a href="#">NJ S. 3852/NJ A. 5392</a>	Would establish an annual ten-day sales tax holiday for certain sales of disaster preparedness supplies and equipment, including pet-related supplies for domestic companion animals—pet beds, collapsible and travel-sized pet feeding bowls, cans and pouches of wet pet food, bags of dry pet food weighing 15 or fewer pounds, collars and leashes, pet waste disposal bags, pet substrate and bedding, and portable pet kennels and travel crates—from September 21 <sup>st</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> each year.	Introduced 05/08/23
<b>New Jersey</b>	<a href="#">NJ S. 3865/NJ A. 5454</a>	Would exempt sales of pet food and medication purchased for pets from sales and use tax.	Introduced 05/08/23

## Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship | Telemedicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
<b>Arizona</b>	<a href="#">AZ S.B.1053</a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When establishing a VCPR, allows a veterinarian to obtain current knowledge of the animal via real-time electronic examination using an audio-video based communication medium and requires a veterinarian to obtain informed consent and requires a number of disclosures to the client;</li> <li>For an electronically established VCPR, a prescription for drugs or medications may be issued for a course of treatment that is up to 14 days, instead of the initially proposed 30 days. Such a prescription may be renewed one time based upon an additional electronic examination, and it may not be further renewed without an in-person examination; and,</li> <li>Controlled substances may not be prescribed without an in-person examination.</li> </ol>	<b>Enacted 5/8/2023</b>
<b>New York</b>	<a href="#">NY A. 6745</a>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow the use of telehealth by veterinarians;</li> </ol>	Introduced 05/08/23

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Require veterinarians practicing telehealth to have sufficient knowledge of the animal by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recently examining the animal in person or have obtained current knowledge of the animal patient through instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically; or</li> <li>b. By conducting medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Require providers to make themselves readily available to the patient for follow-up veterinary services or ensure there is another suitable provider available for follow-up care;</li> <li>4. Allow veterinarians practicing telehealth to prescribe drugs if the veterinarian is a prescriber acting within the scope of their practice and in compliance with existing law; and,</li> <li>5. Define “telehealth” as the use of electronic information and communication technologies by a veterinarian to deliver animal health care services, which shall include the assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and care management of an animal patient. Telehealth shall not include delivery of health care services by means of facsimile machines, or electronic messaging alone, though use of these technologies is not precluded if used in conjunction with telemedicine, store and forward technology, or remote patient monitoring.</li> </ol>	
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### Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New Hampshire	<a href="#">Vet 800</a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishes rules for veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, and veterinary assistants;</li> <li>2. Outlines tasks allowed to be performed by veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, students, and veterinary assistants, and levels of supervision required; and,</li> <li>3. Creates a testing requirement for the VTNE.</li> </ol>	<b>Effective 5/15/2023</b>

### Wildlife | Zoo Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New Hampshire	<a href="#">NH H.B. 119</a>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Require a veterinarian to perform an antemortem examination of each herd annually and keep records of inspection for bison, elk, or red deer to be slaughtered on a farm for sale; and;</li> <li>2. Remove the requirement for veterinarians and owners to report slaughter.</li> </ol>	Amended 5/18/2023