



AVMA State Legislative Update: 2021 Annual Report

Despite challenges from Covid-19 continuing to persist, the commitment to advocating for the best interests of the profession and the partnership between the AVMA, state, and allied veterinary medical associations resulted in many successes throughout the year. As a service to assist associations in tracking current and emerging policy trends important to veterinary medicine, the AVMA Division of State Advocacy sent more than 1,200 legislative and regulatory alerts in 2021 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, rabies vaccination, scope of practice and prohibitions on procedures, and VCPR and telemedicine.

For more information, please contact Mr. Cody Corcelius, Policy Analyst, AVMA Division of State Advocacy (wcorcelius@avma.org).

Animal abuse reporting

State legislatures considered bills that would address animal abuse reporting. **Missouri** [MO HB 643](#) would have provided immunity for veterinarians who report animal abuse. Reporting suspected animal cruelty in **New York** was previously voluntary for veterinarians but a new law ([NY A 5823/NY S 5023](#)) makes it a requirement. And a bill in **Texas** ([TX HB 4330](#)) would have required veterinarians to report suspected incidents of animal cruelty while providing civil and criminal immunity for those who reported in good faith.

Cannabis and marijuana

Legislation in a number of states considered the use of cannabis in animal patients. **California** [CA AB 384](#) would prohibit the Veterinary Medical Board from disciplining a veterinarian who recommends the use of cannabis on an animal for medicinal purposes, unless the veterinarian is employed by or has an agreement with a cannabis licensee and require the Veterinary Medical Board to adopt guidelines for veterinarians to follow when recommending cannabis within the veterinarian-client-patient relationship. **Oklahoma** [OK HB 2179](#) would provide for animal patient medical marijuana licenses while a bill in **Rhode Island** ([RI SB 252](#)) would have allowed a licensed veterinarian to provide an animal—certified by a veterinary practitioner as having a debilitating medical condition—with a written certification for medical marijuana. **Rhode Island** legislature also considered a bill ([RI HB 5190](#)) that would have made domestic pets eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.

Meanwhile, enactment of **Nevada's** [NV AB 101](#) allows a veterinarian to administer a product containing hemp or CBD (which contains not more than 0.3% THC) or recommend to the owner the use of such a product to treat a condition of the animal and prohibits the Nevada State

Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners from taking disciplinary action against a licensed veterinarian for such action.

Continuing education

Continuing education requirements continue to evolve. **Iowa** [IA HF 132](#) would have prohibited licensing boards from limiting the number of hours of continuing education obtained remotely. **New Jersey** [NJ S 3624](#), which failed, would have waived the requirement of a certain number of in-person continuing education credits during a declared public health emergency. In **Oklahoma**, [OK OAR Docket #21-769](#) would add an allowance of web-based materials for continuing education while a finalized regulation in **Texas** ([TX 22 TAC 573.65](#)) will allow licensees the flexibility to earn continuing education hours in whatever format they prefer, whether that be live or virtual.

Oklahoma [OK OAR Docket #21-769](#) would also require all DEA registrants have an additional hour of continuing education in opioids addition and pain management while **Virginia** [VA 18VAC150-20](#) would add a requirement for one hour of continuing education on the subjects of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Courtroom animal advocates

The **Florida** legislature considered legislation ([FL HB 1003/FL SB 1316](#)) which would have allowed a court to appoint an advocate to represent the interests of an animal, whether living or dead, in any prosecution regarding the welfare, care, or custody of the animal. **New Jersey** considered a similar bill ([NJ S 2868/NJ A 4533](#)) that would authorize a court to appoint an advocate to represent the best interests of the animal in certain criminal cases.

Illinois ([IL SB 153](#)), **New York** ([NY S 3525/NY A 5315](#)), and **Rhode Island** ([RI HB 5577](#)) legislatures also had bills that were introduced that would allow a court to appoint a separate advocate in any proceeding regarding welfare of an animal, although these bills allow for representation in the interests of justice.

In the interest of the animal is a very different legal standard than *in the interest of justice*. *In the interest of justice* includes societal interest in the humane treatment of animals, notions of fairness and the interest of the owner, while *in the interest of the animal* is an attempt to require courts to apply the same types of standards as they would for a child.

Existing laws in **Connecticut** ([C.G.S.A. § 54-86n](#) adopted in 2016) and **Maine** ([MRSA §4016, sub-§1-A](#) adopted in 2020) allow for a court to appoint an advocate to represent the interests of justice in proceedings regarding the welfare or custody of a cat or dog. Current law in **Rhode Island** ([RI Gen L § 4-1-31](#) adopted in 2012) allows for designation of a veterinarian from the state Department of Environment Management or an agent from the Rhode Island Society of the Prevention of Cruelty for Animals to act as animal advocates.

Liability

Legislation that would improve civil liability protection for veterinary professionals responding to emergency situations continued to gain popularity across the country this year. **New Jersey** [NJ A 1643/S 715](#) would have established a Good Samaritan Law to provide immunity from civil

liability for veterinarians or emergency responders who assist animals at the scene of an accident or emergency. **Ohio** [OH SB 130](#) would make a veterinarian who renders emergency treatment without compensation to an ill or injured animal not liable to the owner of the animal for any damages to the animal except in the case of gross negligence. During a period of a declared emergency, **Rhode Island** [RI SB 482](#) would have permitted volunteer health practitioners, including veterinarians, and organizations from other states to provide medical and veterinary services and provide the volunteer health practitioners with limited immunity. Enactment of **Texas** [TX HB 2850](#) now provides immunity from civil liability to a veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician, or certified veterinary assistant who provides veterinary care or treatment to an animal during a disaster.

Scope of practice

Illinois [IL HB 337](#) would allow state-licensed chiropractic physicians who are certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association to perform chiropractic care on animals without being under the supervision of a veterinarian. Licensed chiropractors certified by the American Chiropractic Association are already allowed to perform chiropractic care on animals in **Arkansas** and enactment of [AR HB 1268](#) allows for certification of chiropractors *by the equivalent of* the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association.

Arizona, California, Connecticut and **Nevada** legislatures all considered bills that would ban the declawing of cats. **Arizona's** [AZ HB 2626](#) would have allowed a veterinarian to perform declawing of a cat only if the procedure was for a therapeutic purpose. Similarly, in **California**, [CA SB 585](#) would prohibit a person from removing or disabling a cat's claws except when performed solely for a therapeutic purpose but also would require a veterinarian who determines a phalangectomy is necessary for a therapeutic purpose to file a written statement with the Veterinary Medical Board within 10 business days after performing the procedure. Likewise, **Nevada's** [NV AB 209](#) would have prohibited the declawing of a cat unless necessary to address the physical medical condition of a cat and have required a veterinarian who determined the procedure was necessary to file a written statement with the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and provide a copy of the statement to the owner. **Connecticut** [CT HB 5512](#) would have prohibited the practice of declawing cats.

While **New York** is the only state with a statewide ban on declawing of cats, the state legislature considered legislation ([NY A 2012/NY S 1125](#)) that would ban the devocalization of dog and cats.

VCPR and telemedicine

The requirements to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) and use of telemedicine continued to be an area of focus for state policymakers and stakeholders.

Regulations progressed in **Alaska** ([AK 12 AAC 68.010](#), [12 AAC 68.215](#), et al.) which includes language prohibiting a VCPR from being established solely by telephone or other electronic means and allows for the VCPR to be maintained by telemedicine during a 12-month period. In **Iowa**, [IA ARC 5848C](#) would add the requirement for a licensed veterinarian to make a *physical* examination of the patient as well as a timeframe of *within the 12 months* for medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises to establish and maintain the VCPR. Rules in

Michigan (MI R 338.4901- 338.4933), which went into effect in April, required a veterinarian providing a telehealth service to have sufficient knowledge of the animal patient. This knowledge is to be obtained by having recently examined the animal patient in person or obtained current knowledge of the animal patient through the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically or having conducted medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept. In December, the **Michigan** Board of Veterinary Medicine proposed changes to these rules which would strike the ability to obtain the knowledge through the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment. In **North Carolina**, NC 21 NCAC 66 defined “veterinary telemedicine”, “veterinary telemonitoring” and “veterinary teleconsulting” and expressly prohibits a VCPR from being established by any electronic means or telecommunication technologies.

Legislators were equally active in considering legislation on the VCPR and telemedicine. A new law in **Arkansas** (AR HB 1099) directs the board to promulgate rules outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine. Spearheaded by the **Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association**, CT HB 6504 defines the elements needed to have a valid Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship, including a physical examination, and explicitly prohibits a VCPR from being established solely through veterinary telemedicine. The **Florida Veterinary Medical Association** and AVMA opposed legislation (FL HB 911/ SB 1370) that would have allowed a VCPR to be established via telemedicine. Legislation crafted by the **Michigan Veterinary Medical Association** (MI HB 4912 as amended) would require a VCPR to be established by physical examination or timely and medically appropriate visits to the location where the animal is kept. Championed by the **Nevada Veterinary Medical Association** and supported by the AVMA, NV AB 200 was enacted and now defines both the VCPR and veterinary telemedicine. Establishment of a VCPR in Nevada requires a physical examination or visits to the premise where the animal is kept and may not be established via telemedicine. Related draft regulations (NV LCB File No. R***-21) would define further “physical examination”. Backed by the **Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association**, OK SB 270 further modifies the definition of “Telemedicine” to include “telehealth”.

AVMA policy supports the appropriate use of telemedicine but stipulates 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

In **Arkansas**, AR HB 1875 would allow individuals, including veterinary technicians, to work and earn a paycheck while also fulfilling licensing requirements. This “Earn and Learn” provision would not apply for any license requiring a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Legislation was considered in **Massachusetts** (MA HD 2330/MA SD 1897), **Minnesota** (MN HF 2553), **Montana** (MT SB 106) and **New Jersey** (NJ S 4168) to establish licensure for veterinary technicians. The bill in **Massachusetts** would also create a subsidiary board for veterinary technology under the Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine. Supported by the **Montana Veterinary Medical Association**, the Big Sky Veterinary Technician Association, the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, and the AVMA, the new law in **Montana** (MT

SB 106) establishes licensing and qualifications for veterinary technicians and also adds a member to the Board of Veterinary Medicine to represent licensed veterinary technicians.

In West Virginia, WV HB 2344 would have changed the definition of Registered Veterinarian Technicians from “technicians” to “nurses”.

2021 Summary of State Legislation and Regulations

This chart summarizes major legislation considered and/or enacted during 2021. The summaries provided are an analysis by AVMA staff. Bill text can be accessed by clicking on the links provided for each bill number.

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Kansas	<u>KS HB 2364</u>	Would, for the purposes of the crime of cruelty to animals, define “torture” as including, but not be limited to, confining or restricting an animal in a way that is likely to cause death.	Introduced 2/11/21
Louisiana	<u>LA HB 231</u>	Relative to dogs and other animals used in dogfighting, would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required the appointment of a licensed veterinarian or other custodian to care for and assess the seized animals; 2. Required veterinarian or custodian to determine whether the animal is suitable for placement and take steps to rehome, including microchipping and sterilizing the animal; and, 3. Allowed animals deemed as unsuitable pets and who have no owner to be euthanized in a humane manner after the hold period. 	Sine Die- Failed
Louisiana	<u>LA SB 144</u>	Creates the crime of unlawful possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting paraphernalia, including unprescribed veterinary medicine and veterinary treatment supplies.	Enacted 6/4/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA HD 2247</u> <u>MA SD 1645</u>	Would prohibit owning or keeping a domestic animal, including livestock, in “cruel conditions” which include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exposure to excessive animal waste, garbage, non-potable water, excessive noxious odors that create a health threat to people or animals, dangerous objects or other animals that could injure or kill an animal upon contact; and 2. Lack of protection when wind or environmental or weather conditions pose an adverse risk to the health or safety of the animal based on the animal’s species, age, or physical condition. 	Introduced 2/17/2021
Missouri	<u>MO HB 643</u>	Would have provided immunity for veterinarians who report animal abuse.	Sine Die- Failed
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 2319</u>	Would have specified that no owner or operator of an animal-related enterprise, including veterinary clinics, may employ or allow to volunteer a person who has been convicted of a criminal animal cruelty offense, and require actions to be taken to ensure such employment or volunteering does not occur.	Sine-Die Failed

New Jersey	<u>NJ S 3168</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required a veterinarian, veterinary technician, or any person who has reasonable cause to believe an animal has been subjected to an act of animal cruelty to report the suspected violation to the appropriate law enforcement officer; and 2. Provided civil and criminal immunity for a person who, in good faith, reports a suspected animal cruelty violation and a suspected violation of the standards or rules and regulations concerning domestic livestock. 	Sine-Die Failed
New York	<u>NY A 162</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a task force to examine, evaluate and determine how to improve the relationship between animals and humans and the animal protection laws; 2. Recommend ways by which to modernize the laws governing animals; and 3. Require all appointees to have expertise in fields or disciplines related to animals, animal abuse and/or investigations including, but not limited to animal agriculture; companion animals; wildlife and wild animal protection; rescue and adoption of companion animals; animal law enforcement and criminal defense; and animal health and veterinary medical care. 	Introduced 1/6/2021
New York	<u>NY A 5823</u> <u>NY S 5023</u>	Requires a veterinarian who reasonably and in good faith suspects that a companion animal's injury, illness, or condition is the result of animal cruelty to report the incident and disclose records concerning the companion animal's condition and treatment. Existing law allows voluntary reporting.	Enacted 10/30/2021
North Carolina	<u>NC HB 803</u>	<p>Would require the Legislative Research Commission to study veterinary malpractice in North Carolina, including examining:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current legal barriers in the state to recovery for pet owners from persons who commit negligent or intentional acts leading to the death or injury of the pet; 2. Limitations on damages in the context of pets adopted from an animal shelter or other animal rescue organization offering adoption of animals; 3. The approaches to liability for pet death or permanent injury in other states that recognize the significant role pets play in the health and emotional well-being of many state citizens; and, 4. Effectiveness of current facility and occupational licensing. 	Introduced 5/3/2021
Ohio	<u>OH HB 33</u>	Requires a licensed veterinarian when operating in an official or professional capacity to report the abuse of a companion animal (dog, cat, or other animal kept in a residence) to an officer.	Enacted 4/12/21
Oregon	<u>OR HB 3008</u>	<p>Would have prohibited the use of specified types of animals in a traveling animal act but would not apply to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A facility that is accredited, certified or verified by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums or the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries; 2. A person that uses an animal as part of an education program, if the animal is not kept in a transport vehicle for more than 12 hours in a day and the person is: 	Failed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An agent of a wildlife rehabilitation center operated under a valid permit issued by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission; or b. A falconer operating under a valid license issued by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission. <p>3. Licensed or accredited academic, medical or research institution; or</p> <p>4. A licensed veterinary hospital or clinic.</p>	
Texas	TX HB 4330	<p>Would have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required veterinarians to report suspected incidents of animal cruelty; and 2. Provided civil and criminal immunity in reporting, so long as reporting in good faith. 	Sine Die – Failed
Wyoming	WY SF 24	Would have required a defendant to post bond for an impounded animal (other than a livestock animal) that includes the cost of veterinary care and diagnostic testing among other costs. If a bond is not posted in a specified time, then the animal would be placed for adoption, sold or destroyed.	Sine Die – Failed
Wyoming	WY SF 25	Requires an owner of an impounded animal liable for all reasonable costs of impoundment including veterinary care and diagnostic testing.	Enacted 4/6/2021

Animal Advocate | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	FL HB 1003 FL SB 1316	Would have allowed the court to appoint an advocate to represent the interests of the animal, whether living or dead, in any prosecution or any other civil or criminal proceeding regarding the welfare, care, or custody of an animal.	Sine Die – Failed
Illinois	IL SB 153	<p>Would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow the court to appoint a licensed attorney-at-law or law student as a special advocate to assist the court to represent the interests of justice regarding the health or safety of the cat or dog; and 2. Provide that the advocate may consult any person with information that could aid the court and review records relating to the condition of the cat or dog and the defendant's actions, including, records from veterinarians. 	Introduced 2/9/2021
New Jersey	NJ S 2868 NJ A 4533	Would have provided an advocate in criminal cases concerning animal welfare to represent the best interests of, and justice for, the animal.	Sine Die- Failed
New York	NY S 4248	Requires the court to consider the best interest of animal when awarding the possession of a companion animal in a divorce or separation proceeding.	Enacted 10/25/2021
New York	NY S 3525 NY A 5315	Would allow the court to appoint a separate advocate in any proceeding regarding welfare of an animal to represent the interests of justice.	Introduced 1/30/2021
Rhode Island	RI HB 5577	Would have allowed a civil or criminal court to 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

Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ SB 1353	Would allow a licensed veterinarian to administer a rabies antibody titer to determine whether to administer a rabies booster to a dog. A rabies antibody titer that shows an adequate immune response could	Introduced 1/25/21

		be accepted in lieu of a rabies booster vaccination for all requirements in Arizona.	
Arizona	<u>AZ R9-6-502</u>	Would change the confinement of a rabies exposed animal from 180 to 120 days in a veterinary animal hospital or animal control facility at the owner's expense.	Published 5/14/2021
Connecticut	<u>CT SB 236</u>	Would have required the Department of Public Health to study the eastern equine encephalitis vaccine and the feasibility of making it available to the public.	Sine Die - Failed
Connecticut	<u>CT SB 457</u>	Would have reduced the length of time a dog or cat is required to be strictly confined (from 6 months to 4 months) after exposure to rabies if the animal is vaccinated for rabies within 96 hours of exposure.	Sine Die - Failed
Delaware	<u>DE HB 4</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires veterinarians to report a suspected or confirmed case of rabies to the department of agriculture within 12 hours; 2. Requires those administering rabies vaccinations to be licensed veterinarians; and, 3. Requires the licensed veterinarian administering the vaccine to complete a certificate specifying accurately the manufacturer's specifications of the duration of immunity of the rabies vaccination used and the date the animal needs to be revaccinated in accordance with the specific criteria of the Compendium or as mandated by Delaware state law; and, Prohibits licensed veterinarians from vaccinating a native wild animal, mammal, hybrid, exotic mammal, or exotic mammal hybrid or another animal with a rabies vaccine not intended for use in that animal. 	Enacted 6/4/2021
Georgia	<u>GA SB 303</u>	Would require dogs of a commercial breeder to have an annual checkup by a veterinarian, be up to date on all vaccinations required by law and local ordinance and be given heartworm medication at such regular intervals as are required for prevention.	Introduced 3/18/2021
Illinois	<u>IL HB 3634</u>	Would add a second veterinarian, one of whom must be a practicing Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, to the Lyme Disease Task Force.	Introduced 2/19/2021
Illinois	<u>IL HB 2177</u>	Would require every dog to have a second rabies vaccination within one year of the first vaccination.	Introduced 2/16/2021
Illinois	<u>IL SB 2059</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide that, if a bite occurs from an animal exempt from rabies vaccinations, the exempt animal be treated as an unvaccinated animal and, if a rabies titer has been administered, the animal would be treated as a vaccinated animal; and 2. Mandate, if the animal is exempt, the animal would be re-examined by a licensed veterinarian on no less than an annual basis and be vaccinated against rabies as soon as the animal's health permits or if deemed necessary by a rabies titer. 	Introduced 2/26/2021
Indiana	<u>IN SB 53</u>	Requires a veterinarian, owner, caretaker, or custodian of an animal who knows or suspects that an animal has a disease or condition declared reportable by the state board of animal health to report the existence of the disease or condition to the state veterinarian or local health officer not later than 24 hours after discovering the occurrence or suspected occurrence of the disease or condition.	Enacted 4/1/2021
Iowa	<u>IA HF 726</u>	Would allow veterinary assistants to administer rabies vaccinations.	Introduced 3/3/2021
Maine	<u>ME LD 103 (HP 69)</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides that an owner or keeper of a dog over 3 months of age must have the dog vaccinated; and, 2. Allows the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to employ any person considered necessary to assist in 	Enacted 6/8/2021

		any response to a natural or man-made disaster affecting animals both in the State and outside the State.	
Massachusetts	<u>MA H 917</u>	Would: 1. Require any dog brought into Massachusetts by an animal rescue organization from another state for permanent physical placement to quarantine for at least 48 hours; and 2. After quarantine, require a veterinarian to examine the dog and issue a certificate of health if the dog does not display signs of contagious or infectious illness.	Introduced 1/29/2021
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 888</u>	Would require the Board of Animal Health to use live-animal testing methods, to the extent possible, to surveil farmed Cervidae herds for the presence of chronic wasting disease (CWDF) and require the Board to consider relevant test results from other states when determining a herd's CWD status.	Introduced 2/8/21
Nevada	<u>NV SB 112</u>	Excludes viruses, serums, toxins and analogous products for use in the treatment of domestic animals from regulation under Nevada law governing drugs and medicines.	Enacted 5/27/2021
New Hampshire	<u>NH HB 367</u>	Would have changed the quarantine period for a dog, cat, or ferret from 48 hours to 7 days upon entry into the state and require a health certificate from a licensed veterinarian.	Failed
New Hampshire	<u>NH SB 127</u>	Would: 1. Establish an animal records database; 2. Require the veterinarian signing a health certificate to pay a fee not to exceed \$2 for each official health certificate submitted to the department of agriculture, markets, and food; 3. Require the veterinarian signing the health certificate wavier (if applicable) to pay a fee not to exceed \$2 for each official health certificate submitted to the department of agriculture, markets, and food; and 4. Require the veterinarian to enter the rabies vaccine certificate information electronically into the animal records database and generate a copy for the owner.	Introduced 2/3/2021
New Hampshire	<u>NH HB 387</u>	Would require: 1. A rabies antibody test to be done 30 days post initial vaccination for dogs to confirm immunity; 2. A licensed veterinarian to determine what action is to be taken to ensure immunity and public safety. 3. Any dog whose lack of response to the vaccine shall be considered a non-responder and shall be maintained in strict rabies isolation, under conditions that are at the discretion of the local rabies control authority. Non-responders shall not be allowed outdoors without being on a leash and shall be under the direct physical control of an adult owner at all times. 4. In addition, when the animal is outdoors, it shall be muzzled in a manner approved by the local rabies control authority. These restrictions shall be in effect until proof of adequate protection can be documented. Would remove the isolation, leashing and muzzling requirement for exempted animals. Instead, dogs that have had at least one rabies vaccine and where protection could be confirmed by titer at the time of exemption would not be subject to being maintained in rabies isolation. 5. A dog with a current exemption thought to have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected rabid animal would be considered as having an out-of-date vaccination status. Post exposure management and quarantine would be carried out in accordance	Introduced 1/10/2021

		with the information listed in the most current National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians' Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control.	
New Hampshire	NH HB 532	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Created a database for animal health records; 2. Established a fee on the submission of animal health certificates and on rabies vaccinations; and 3. Required veterinarians to send a copy of the rabies vaccination certificate to the department of agriculture, markets, and food. 	Failed
New York	NY A 1604	Would permit livestock owners to purchase and possess rabies vaccine and to vaccinate their livestock against rabies during emergency rabies outbreak situations as determined by the commissioner of health.	Introduced 1/11/2021
Oregon	OR HB 2733	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removed the prohibition against issuing dog licenses without proof of rabies inoculation; 2. Required counties to make dog license conditional on presentation of proof dog has been inoculated against rabies; 3. Authorize counties to provide other means to verify compliance with dog vaccination requirements; 4. Authorized counties to allow grace period for dog owner to present proof of inoculation or for receipt of other verification of inoculation; and, 5. Provided exceptions to county or city acceptance of dog license as proof of inoculation. 	Failed
Oregon	OR 603-011-0212	Would amend the list of diseases reportable by veterinarians to the Oregon Department of Agriculture to match the USDA's National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD).	Published 8/1/2021
Texas	TX 4 TAC 45.1 et.al.	Adds agents of disease transmission; amends the scope of information a veterinarian must report; consolidates list of reportable and actionable diseases; and adds applicable penalties and violations.	Finalized 10/01/2021

Animal Shelters

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA AB 258	Would encourage applicants and grantees that provide emergency shelter or transitional housing for homeless to partner with organizations within the community to provide veterinary care and food for the pet if necessary.	Introduced 1/15/21
Colorado	CO HB 21-1160	Clarifies the standard of care that an animal shelter or pet animal rescue is required to provide each dog and cat held in its custody.	Enacted 5/24/2021
Louisiana	LA SB 58	Expands the ways to permanently identify impounded animals from just branding to also include microchipping, tattoos, or other approved measures.	Enacted 6/11/2021
Minnesota	MN SF 2207/MN HF 1852	Would prohibit the use of non-anesthetic gases in the euthanasia of pets or companion animals at private or public animal shelter, humane society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, animal control facility, or pound.	Introduced 3/22/2021
New Hampshire	NH HB 249	Requires all dogs, cats, or ferrets transferred out of an animal shelter facility to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a form of positive identification, including, but not limited to a tattoo, collar, microchip, ear tag, or any other permanent form of identification approved by the commissioner; and, 	Enacted 8/17/2021

		2. Be vaccinated against rabies before the transfer if proof of rabies vaccination is not available. Animal shelters cannot transfer a dog, cat, or ferret that is received from outside of the state without an official health certificate and until quarantine requirements have been met.	
New Jersey	NJ A 5715	Would have: 1. Established requirements for the disclosure of information concerning the health and condition of a domestic companion animal that is adopted from an animal rescue organization facility; and, 2. Required the registration of animal rescue organizations and their facilities with the Department of Health (which is voluntary under current law).	Sine-Die Failed
Pennsylvania	PA HB 1735	Would: Require animal shelters to develop and follow an appropriate plan to provide dogs with the opportunity for exercise approved by a veterinarian; and Require all kennels to be equipped with smoke alarms or fire extinguishers and housing facilities to be equipped with fire extinguishers on the premises.	Introduced 7/30/2021
Texas	TX HB 604	Requires a shelter, animal rescue organization or releasing agency to scan an animal for a microchip.	Enacted 5/26/2021
Texas	TX HB 652	Would have required an animal shelter to provide written, electronic, or telephonic notice to each person who adopts an animal from the shelter of any epizootic infectious disease that occurs among the animals in the shelter for the period beginning on the 15th day before the date the person adopts the animal and ending on the 15th day after the date the person adopts the animal.	Sine Die - Failed
Texas	TX SB 276	Would have required an animal shelter to: 1. Quarantine an animal with an infectious disease until the animal is no longer infectious; and, 2. Provide oral or written notice to a person who leaves an animal at the shelter to receive veterinary care of: a. Any animal on the premises with an infectious disease; and, b. An animal at the shelter diagnosed with an infectious disease during the time the person's animal is under the care of the shelter.	Sine Die - Failed
Utah	UT SB 237	Would have: 1. Addressed the methods by which an animal may be euthanized; and, 2. Required an animal shelter to adopt a euthanasia policy and training program approved by a veterinarian.	Sine Die - Failed

Appropriations

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR HB 1126	Appropriates \$25,000 for registered governmentally owned animal rescue shelters for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.	Enacted 1/28/21
Iowa	IA HF 868	Appropriates \$300,000 to the Rural Veterinarian Loan Repayment Program.	Enacted 6/8/2021
Minnesota	MN SF 404	Would appropriate \$1 million in 2022 and \$1 million in 2023 for grants to assist internationally trained professionals, including veterinarians, in earning Minnesota licenses. The commissioner would work with local workforce development boards to award grants and give preference to efforts to assist professionals in occupations where there is unmet local need for that profession's skills.	Introduced 1/28/21

New York	NY A 1302	Would provide state assistance for food and veterinarian expenses for guide dogs, hearing dogs and service dogs of individuals qualifying for social services.	Introduced 1/8/2021
North Carolina	NC HB 435	Would create a “Pet is Family” license plate. Money made from the plate would go to The Sergei Foundation, Inc., to be used to assist low-income families in paying for veterinary care.	Introduced 3/29/2021
Oregon	OR SB 5521	Sets the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues collected or received by the Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board at \$657,323.	Enacted 7/14/2021
Texas	TX SB 8	Appropriates \$1,000,000 to the Higher Education Coordinating Board to provide funding for the rural veterinarians grant program.	Enrolled 10/19/2021

Companion Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA AB 1282	Phases out two closed-colony blood banks over a period of 18 months and transition to establishments that collect blood from community-sourced canines; and appropriates \$1,000,000 for the Department of Food and Agriculture to implement an oversight program.	Enacted 10/9/2021
Connecticut	CT SB 458	Would have established a required license for companion animal breeders and a fee on a per-animal basis for such breeders that would be used by the Department of Agriculture for spaying and neutering programs.	Sine Die - Failed
Hawaii	HI SB 1387	Would require dog and cat owners to microchip their pets if the pets are not licensed.	Enacted 7/8/2021
Iowa	IA HF 59	Would prohibit cities and counties from banning specific dog breeds.	Introduced 1/14/21
Massachusetts	MA S 613	Would require a research facility or product testing facility that intends to euthanize a dog or cat to make a reasonable effort to offer the animal for adoption to an individual, an animal shelter or an animal rescue organization before euthanizing the animal. The attending veterinarian of the research facility or product testing facility or designee would be responsible for assessing the suitability of the animal and determining its availability for adoption.	Introduced 1/8/2021
Massachusetts	MA S 582	Would require any commercial boarding or training kennel actively used for day care services to ensure continuous supervision of all animals.	Introduced 2/17/2021
Massachusetts	MA H 2209	Would require all dogs that are deemed as dangerous to have a mandatory evaluation and regular meetings as prescribed by a veterinary behaviorist, non-veterinary behaviorist, or a veterinarian that is familiar with and uses methods that follow the position statements of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior. If the behaviorist/veterinarian believes the dog would benefit from training, they would recommend a trainer who is credentialed by either the Association of Professional Dog Trainers or the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants.	Introduced 2/18/2021
Massachusetts	MA H 305	Would: 1. Regulate commercial boarding and training kennels; and, 2. Establish a committee to advise the commissioner of agricultural resources on issues including appropriate training for kennel staff. One member of the committee would be a veterinarian or member of a veterinary medical association organized in the commonwealth.	Introduced 2/19/2021

Michigan	MI SB 582	Would prohibit the conducting of research, training, or certain activities on dogs in a manner that causes pain and distress by an individual employed, contracted, or otherwise directed by a public body.	Introduced 6/30/2021
Michigan	MI SB 549	Would: 1. Require a person that operates a pet cemetery to disclose to the pet owner disposal options available, making this disclosure on a form that must be signed by the pet owner; 2. Allow a veterinarian to execute the disposal form acting on written or verbal request of the pet owner; and, 3. Not require the form if the pet owner cannot be found.	Introduced 6/17/2021
Missouri	MO HB 561	Would have required any person licensed to manufacture or distribute pet food or specialty pet food to place a warning on any pet food or specialty pet food imported from or containing any feed ingredient imported from or produced in a foreign nation. The warning would read: "WARNING: Use of this product may cause serious injury to or the death of your pet."	Sine Die – Failed
New Hampshire	NH HB 438	Would have made provisions for the confidentiality of records made by the department of agriculture, markets, and food into any database relative to animal health certificates.	Sine-Die Failed
New York	NY A 6560	Would require a veterinarian to disclose the cause of death to the department of agriculture and markets when companion animal's death is due to illness, disease, or congenital condition and the death occurs within six months of the owner obtaining the companion animal from a pet dealer.	Introduced 3/19/2021
New York	NY S 6652	Would require the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets to develop and maintain a searchable database of lost and found domestic animals.	Introduced 5/11/2021
North Carolina	NC HB 851	Would amend the definition of "Dangerous Dog" by removing the automatic inclusion of dogs involved in dogfighting.	Introduced 5/4/2021
Virginia	VA SB 891	Requires: 1. The Commissioner to employ and direct at least two licensed veterinary technicians (to be known as the State Animal Welfare Inspector) to conduct two annual inspections of each regulated facility; and, 2. Regulations governing the keeping of dogs, cats, and rabbits by any commercial dog breeder, dealer, pet shop, or private animal shelter, and the keeping of companion animals by zoos not accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. These regulations would not apply to agricultural animals or to any research facility.	Enacted 5/21/2021

Continuing Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Iowa	IA HF 132	Would prohibit a licensing board from limiting the number of continuing education credits that may be obtained remotely in satisfying continuing education requirements.	Introduced 1/21/21
Iowa	IA SF 163	Would authorize a licensing board to extend the deadline to satisfy continuing education requirements by up to 90 days if a board finds that a licensee is experiencing an unforeseen financial or medical hardship.	Introduced 1/26/21
Minnesota	MN SF 1020	Regulates continuing education sponsors and instructors by: 1. Prohibiting coordinators and instructors from selling or soliciting the services or practices of a business; and,	Enacted 5/6/2021

		2. Allowing coordinators to display a company logo or branding; establish a trade show or conference booth outside the classroom where the educational content would be delivered; and distribute any print or electronic advertisement for a good or service in the classroom during a break in the delivery of the educational content.	
New Jersey	NJ S 3624	Would have waived any requirement to complete a certain number of continuing education credits in-person in order to renew a license, certificate of registration, certification, or any other credential, when the Governor declares a public health emergency.	Sine-Die Failed
Oklahoma	OK OAR Docket #21-769	Would: 1. Include allowance of web-based material for the continuing education; 2. Require DEA registrants to have an additional one hour continuing education in opioids addiction/pain management; 3. Permit any Oklahoma State College of Veterinary Medicine continuing education to qualify; 4. Add PAVE as alternate pathway to veterinarian licensure; and, 5. Include failure to report cruelty of animals as a violation under unprofessional conduct.	Published 11/1/2021
Texas	TX 22 TAC 573.65	Allows licensees the flexibility to earn continuing education hours in whatever format they prefer, whether that be live or virtual.	Finalized 11/7/2021
Virginia	VA 18VAC150-20	Would add a requirement for one hour of continuing education on the subjects of diversity, equity, and inclusion.	Published 4/12/2021

COVID-19

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	CT SB 560	Would have established a task force to study the feasibility of using scent dogs to identify persons who are positive with a transmissible virus, including, but not limited to, COVID-19.	Sine Die - Failed
District of Columbia	22-B DCMR, Chapter 2, 17 DCMR, Chapter 40	Mandates COVID-19 vaccine for all health care workers, including veterinarians, licensed by the District of Columbia.	Finalized 8/23/2021
Iowa	IA HF 133	Would direct each professional licensing board to grant to each licensee holding a license that requires the completion of continuing education requirements an additional six months to complete any continuing education requirement beyond the deadline that was suspended by the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued by the governor on Dec. 9, 2020, or a section of any subsequent proclamation with the same effect.	Introduced 1/21/21
North Dakota	ND HB 1271	Would have: 1. Established that an employer is immune from civil liability for an act or omission resulting in a compensable injury to an employee sustained from exposure or potential exposure to COVID-19 if the act or omission was in substantial compliance or was consistent with a federal or state statute, regulation, or order, or a municipal ordinance or mayoral order or directive related to COVID-19 which was applicable to the employer or activity at issue at the time of the alleged exposure or potential exposure; and, 2. Redefined a mental or psychological condition caused by a work-related injury to mean a mental or psychological condition caused by a single work-related traumatic event, a series of work-related	Failed 2/3/21

		traumatic events, or a period of high work-related stress or anxiety likely to result in injury.	
North Dakota	ND HB 1320	Would have established limitations on immunizations such that: 1. A state or local elected official, the state, or a political subdivision of the state could not mandate an individual in this state receive a vaccination; 2. Making receipt of a vaccine a condition for entry, education, employment, or services would be prohibited; and, 3. If a state or local elected official, the state, or a political subdivision of the state recommends an individual in North Dakota receive a vaccination, the official or entity would provide notice that the recommendation is not mandatory.	Sine Die - Failed
Oregon	OR SB 771	Would have prohibited requiring an employee to obtain a COVID vaccine.	Failed
Pennsylvania	PA SB 285	Would authorize eligible healthcare providers, including veterinarians, who receive training in COVID-19-approved vaccines to administer the vaccines.	Introduced 2/26/2021
Washington	WA HB 1065	Would: 1. Prohibit a law, rule, or order, by a government or private entity requiring the receipt of any epidemic or pandemic vaccines, including vaccines used to prevent SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19, for any reason, including as a condition of employment, school attendance, professional licensure, educational certification or degree, admittance to any place of business unless certain conditions are met; and 2. Exempt a person who issues a verbal or written declaration of medical, philosophical, or religious objection from any requirement for epidemic or pandemic vaccines, including vaccines used to prevent SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19, imposed by any law, rule, or order, by any government or private entity as a condition of employment, school attendance, professional licensure, educational certification or degree, admittance to any place of business or access to any mode of transportation.	Introduced 1/11/2021
Wyoming	WY HB 51	Due to COVID-19, authorizes a temporary emergency Wyoming Business Relief Through Enhanced Meat Processing Program to expand and enhance meat processing capabilities, including stipends for Wyoming businesses experiencing interruptions due to the COVID-19 public health crisis to address COVID-19 related problems by expanding and maintaining mobile and modular meat processing facilities, providing workforce training and converting state inspected facilities to federally inspected facilities.	Enacted 4/14/2021

Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR SB 110	Appropriates for payments of contracts and loans with participating out-of-state institutions of higher learning in the field of veterinary medicine for the education of Arkansas citizens: 1. \$1,750,000 for the Veterinary Aid and Forgiveness Program; and, 2. \$250,000 for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Forgiveness Program.	Enacted 1/13/21
Louisiana	LA HB 177	Authorizes a student in a veterinary school to perform: 1. Duties or actions assigned by his instructors, or work under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian during a school vacation period; and,	Enacted 6/11/2021

		2. Sterilizations on dogs or cats being sold or released through adoption by an animal shelter or animal control agency in the state.	
Missouri	MO HB 6	Appropriates \$120,000 for the veterinary student loan repayment program.	Enacted 6/30/21
New Jersey	NJ S 347	Establishes the “New Jersey One Health Task Force” in the Department of Health to develop a strategic plan to promote interdisciplinary communication and collaboration between physicians, veterinarians, and other scientific professionals and State agencies, with the goal of promoting the health and well-being of the State’s residents, animals, and environment.	Enacted 6/24/2021
New York	NY S 4084	Would establish the veterinarians across rural New York state student loan repayment fund for certain veterinarians that make a two-year commitment to practice in a tract or county defined by the health resources and services administration as being "rural" or eligible for a rural health grant.	Introduced 2/2/2021
North Dakota	ND SB 2140	Waives repayment requirements for individuals participating in the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) in veterinary medicine, dentistry, or optometry who entered an agreement with the state board of higher education during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021.	Enacted 3/23/2021
Oklahoma	OK OAR Docket #21- 768	Would include a definition for Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE), another pathway for graduates of a non-American Veterinary Medical Association accredited school to become licensed in Oklahoma.	Published 11/1/2021
Texas	TX HB 1259	Directs the Texas Animal Health Commission to administer the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program Committee.	Enacted 6/9/2021
Utah	UT HB 1	Appropriates \$5,262,600 for the Utah State University School of Veterinary Medicine.	Enacted 2/4/21
Vermont	VT H 420	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Changes the Vermont Large Animal Veterinarian Educational Loan Repayment Fund to the Vermont Food Animal Veterinarian Educational Loan Repayment Fund; and, Provides discretion to the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to award annual student loan repayment awards to licensed, qualified veterinarians who are significantly dedicated to treating food animals in the State. 	Enacted 5/21/2021
Wyoming	WY SF 93	Would have included veterinary medicine students under Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) repayment program requirements.	Vetoed 4/7/2021

Emergency | First Responders

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR HB 1152	Permits: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical services provider to transport an injured police dog to a veterinary hospital or clinic if a person does not require immediate medical attention or transport at the time; and, Personnel to provide emergency medical care to the police dog, including without limitation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Opening and manually maintaining an airway; Giving mouth-to-snout or mouth-to-barrier ventilation; Administering oxygen; Managing ventilation by mask; Controlling hemorrhage with direct pressure; 	Enacted 4/20/2021

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. Immobilizing fractures; g. Bandaging; h. Administering naloxone hydrochloride, if administering naloxone hydrochloride has been authorized in accordance with a written protocol established and provided by a veterinarian or in consultation with a veterinarian; or i. Providing euthanasia. <p>Personnel who provide emergency medical care or transportation to an injured police dog are not to be liable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For expenses related to providing emergency medical care or for the transport to a veterinary hospital or clinic; or 2. Civilly or criminally for emergency medical care provided, including without limitation all causes of action lying in tort or contract and any causes of action for damages arising from the emergency medical care provided to the police dog; or for expenses charged by the veterinary hospital or clinic for emergency medical care or subsequent associated medical care provided to the police dog. 	
Connecticut	<u>CT HB 5569</u>	Would have allowed an ambulance to transport a police dog injured in the line of duty and in need of emergency medical care to a veterinary clinic or similar facility if there are no individuals in need of transportation or emergency assistance.	Sine Dine- Failed
California	<u>CA SB 132</u>	Would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require the University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine to develop the <i>California Veterinary Emergency Team</i> to assist in the support and training of a network of government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and individuals to assist in the evacuation and care of household and domestic animals and livestock in emergencies statewide (including disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation); and, 2. Require the program to conduct or support research on best practices for the evacuation and care of the animals in disasters. 	Amended 6/29/2021
Florida	<u>FL HB 697</u>	Would have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allowed licensed life support services to transport injured police canines; and, 2. Authorized a paramedic or an emergency medical technician to provide emergency medical care to the injured police canine and provided immunity from criminal and civil liability. 	Sine Die - Failed
Florida	<u>FL SB 388</u>	Authorizes licensed life support services to transport injured police canines and authorizes a paramedic or an emergency medical technician to provide emergency medical care to injured police canines.	Enacted 6/18/2021
Hawaii	<u>HI SB 51</u>	Would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit law enforcement officers, animal control officers, and first responders to enter an unattended vehicle to rescue a pet animal if there is a good-faith, reasonable belief that the pet animal is in imminent danger; and, 2. Require an animal control officer, law enforcement officer, or firefighter who removes or otherwise retrieves a pet animal to deliver the pet animal to a veterinary hospital or animal clinic for a health screening and treatment. 	Introduced 1/21/21
Illinois	<u>IL HB 17</u>	Would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow emergency medical (EMS) personnel to provide pre-veterinary emergency care to a dog or cat to the extent the EMS 	Introduced 1/14/2021

		<p>personnel has received commensurate training and is authorized by their employer to provide care;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Define “pre-veterinary emergency care” as the immediate medical stabilization of a dog or cat by EMS personnel, in an emergency to which the EMS personnel is responding, through means including oxygen, fluids, medications, or bandaging, with the intent of enabling the dog or cat to be treated by a veterinarian; and, 3. Exclude care provided in response to an emergency call made solely for the purpose of tending to an injured dog or cat, unless a person's life could be in danger by attempting to save the life of a dog or cat. 	
Indiana	<u>IN HB 1201</u>	Provides that if there is not an individual requiring medical attention or transport, a paramedic, advanced emergency medical technician, or emergency medical technician may use emergency ambulance services to transport an operational canine injured in the line of duty to a veterinary hospital or clinic and provide care to the operational canine.	Enacted 4/28/2021
Indiana	<u>IN HB 1420</u>	<p>Allow the Board of Animal Health to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have cooperation with animal owners and law enforcement to plan for, prepare for, respond to, and recover from all hazardous emergencies in Indiana; 2. Delegate the duty to adopt emergency rules to the State Veterinarian; 3. Issue emergency orders; 4. Facilitate the prompt disposal of animals in an emergency; and, 5. Adopt rules restricting animal disposal methods in order to control disease and pests in animals and chemical or radiological substances. 	Enacted 4/8/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA S 2573</u>	Would authorize EMS personnel to provide emergency treatment to a police dog injured in the line of duty, and transport such police dog by ambulance, to a veterinary clinic or veterinary hospital equipped to provide emergency treatment.	Introduced 2/12/2021
Michigan	<u>MI SB 44</u>	Would prohibit an employer from discriminating against, disciplining, or discharging an employee who is absent from work to respond to an emergency as an emergency responder. Emergency responder includes veterinary or other public health practitioners.	Introduced 1/26/21
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 568</u> <u>MN SF 952</u>	Would permit certified emergency medical personnel to provide emergency medical care to police dogs without a license to practice veterinary medicine in Minnesota.	Introduced 2/1/21
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 1643</u>	Would have established a Good Samaritan Law to provide immunity from civil liability for veterinarians or emergency responders who assist animals at accident scene or emergency.	Sine-Die Failed
New York	<u>NY S 2783</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorize emergency medical care personnel to provide basic first aid to dogs and cats; and, 2. Provide immunity for any licensed veterinarian who provides off-site instruction to any certified first responder, emergency medical technician or advanced emergency medical technician providing basic first aid to a dog or cat from liability for damages for injuries or death alleged to have been sustained by any dog or cat as a result of such instruction where such veterinarian acted reasonably and in good faith in providing such instruction. 	Introduced 1/25/2021

New York	<u>NY A 7122</u>	Allows the commissioner of agriculture and markets to enter into agreements with animal welfare organizations to provide care for animals during emergencies and disasters.	Enacted 7/1/2021
North Carolina	<u>NC HB 648</u>	Would allow emergency medical services personnel to provide emergency medical transport or emergency medical services to an injured K-9 police unit animal at the scene of an emergency.	Introduced 4/22/2021
North Carolina	<u>NC HB 679</u>	Would grant civil immunity to an emergency medical services personnel or law enforcement dog handler who voluntarily renders first aid, emergency treatment, rescue assistance, or transportation to a veterinary clinic to a law enforcement dog or search and rescue dog.	Introduced 4/26/2021
North Dakota	<u>ND SB 2164</u>	Empowers the board to adopt rules for when an emergency or disaster is declared if the rules are necessary to abate an imminent peril that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the public. Adopted emergency rules would not be allowed to remain in effect for more than 30 months.	Enacted 4/20/2021
Ohio	<u>OH HB 392</u>	Would allow ambulance transport of an injured police dog when the dog is injured in the line of duty.	Introduced 8/18/2021
Ohio	<u>OH SB 130</u>	Would make a veterinarian who renders emergency treatment, without compensation, to an ill or injured animal, not liable to the owner of the animal for any damages to the animal except in the case of gross negligence.	Introduced 3/16/2021
Oregon	<u>OR SB 103</u>	Transfers animal emergency operations planning from the state Office of Emergency Management to the state Department of Agriculture.	Enacted 6/11/2021
Oregon	<u>OR HB 2650</u>	Allows EMS providers to transport or treat an injured K-9 officer.	Enacted 6/10/2021
Pennsylvania	<u>PA SB 628</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Criminalize a person causing serious bodily injury or death to a police animal while as a principal or an accomplice in the perpetuation of a felony as a second-degree felony; and, 2. Allow emergency service providers to transport and provide emergency medical care to a police animal injured in the line of duty if a person does not require care. 	Introduced 5/11/2021
Rhode Island	<u>RI H 5165</u>	Would have authorized emergency medical service providers to transport and provide first aid to police dogs injured in the line of duty.	Sine Die - Failed
Rhode Island	<u>RI HB 5622</u>	During a declared emergency, would have allowed volunteer health practitioners, including veterinarians, and organizations from other states to provide medical and veterinary services.	Sine Die - Failed
Rhode Island	<u>RI SB 482</u>	Would have provided that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During a period of a declared emergency volunteer health practitioners, including veterinarians, and organizations from other states would be permitted to provide medical and veterinary services pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the director of the department of health; and, 2. Volunteer health practitioners would have limited immunity for acts or omissions while providing services, and the practitioners would be treated as state employees for workers' compensation purposes. 	Sine Die - Failed

Equine			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	<u>CA Amndt 1866</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the time that a horse placed on the Veterinarian's List as unsound or lame may not work out, unless permitted by the veterinarian, from 72 hours to seven days; 2. Specify that a horse placed on the list as receiving a veterinary treatment of an intra-articular injection of a corticosteroid or of Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy may not work out for 10 or 30 days, respectively; 3. Require any horse placed on the list to undergo a veterinary examination prior to resuming training; and 4. Increase the number of days before a horse placed on the list as unsound or lame may be removed from the list, depending on the number of times the horse has been placed on the list in a 365-day period. 	Published 2/26/2021
Louisiana	<u>LA SB 103</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes the Louisiana Equine Promotion and Research Program to enhance research, education, promotion, facilities, tourism, events, and equine-related activities throughout Louisiana; and, 2. Creates the Louisiana Equine Promotion and Research Advisory Board within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry to contract scientific research and other activities for the program. 	Enacted 6/11/2021
New York	<u>NY A 4154</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the slaughter of racehorses and racehorse breeding stock; and, 2. Require every racing horse to be Micro-chipped. 	Introduced 2/1/2021
New York	<u>NY A 5481</u>	Would prohibit any person from slaughtering a horse for human consumption.	Introduced 2/19/2021
Texas	<u>TX HB 3132</u>	Permits a student of an equine dental provider certification program to perform equine dentistry under the direct supervision of an active veterinarian in good standing.	Enacted 6/4/2021

Euthanasia			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Michigan	<u>MI R 338.3501 et.al.</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modifies the regulatory mechanism for animal control shelters, animal protection shelters, and Class B dealers who administer tranquilizers and euthanize animals; 2. Requires managers and employees of animal control shelters, animal protection shelters, and Class B dealers who acquire, store, and administer tranquilizing or euthanizing drugs to receive additional training in administering tranquilizers and euthanizing animals; 3. Requires that the training be approved by the state veterinarian who has determined that the training complies with the American Veterinary Medical Association's guidelines for euthanasia of animals; and, 4. Requires record keeping for controlled substances used. 	Finalized 11/4/2021
Minnesota	<u>MN SF 335</u>	Would prohibit euthanasia of pets or companion animals by carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, or other non-anesthetic gas in a private or public animal shelter, humane society, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, animal control facility, or pound.	Introduced 1/25/21
Minnesota	<u>MN SF 374</u>	Would require that if an animal in a farmed Cervidae herd tests positive for chronic wasting disease, the entire herd must be	Introduced 1/28/21

		euthanized and disposed of at the owner's expense and in a manner approved by the Board of Animal Health, unless state and federal funds are available for this purpose.	
New York	NY SB 6209	Would require the veterinarian performing the humane euthanasia of a companion animal to explain to the companion animal owner, in a truthful and easy to understand manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The various methods which can be utilized to humanely euthanize the companion animal; 2. The benefits, risks and negative impacts upon the animal of each method; 3. The alternative method of humane euthanasia to be utilized if the preferred method cannot be humanely utilized, and the negative impacts and risks of the alternative method; and, 4. Fully answer any questions the companion animal owner has. 	Introduced 4/15/2021
New York	NY A 2313	Would prohibit a slaughterhouse, stockyard, auction market agency, or dealer from holding a downed animal without taking immediate action to humanely euthanize the animal or humanely remove the animal for veterinary treatment.	Introduced 1/14/2021
New York	NY A 4170	Would establish the position of licensed euthanasia technician.	Introduced 2/1/2021
Ohio	OH SB 164	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit any animal shelter from recklessly destroying a domestic animal by the use of a carbon monoxide gas chamber, carbon dioxide gas chamber, or any other non-anesthetic inhalant; and 2. Allow an animal shelter to destroy a domestic animal by the use of a carbon monoxide gas chamber, carbon dioxide gas chamber, or any other non-anesthetic inhalant if the state veterinary medical licensing board, in consultation with the state board of pharmacy, declares that there is a shortage of approved lethal injection substances. 	Introduced 4/15/2021
Ohio	4741-1-23	Requires an employee of an animal shelter to perform euthanasia utilizing lethal injection on an animal using any substance other than combination drugs that contain pentobarbital and at least one noncontrolled substance active ingredient.	Finalized 8/31/2021
Oregon	OR 875-040-0000	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarify that this rule applies to all domestic animals; 2. Make changes to rules and licensing procedures for Certified Euthanasia Technicians; and, 3. Add Butorphanol to the list of euthanasia drugs. 	Published 7/1/2021
Oregon	OR HB 2217	Would have provided that a law enforcement officer may euthanize wild animals only if they consult with a licensed veterinarian before euthanizing and do so in a manner consistent with euthanasia guidelines established by the Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board.	Failed

Feral cats

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL SB 1673	Would allow the Department of Agriculture to provide guidance for the operation of programs for trapping, neutering or spaying, vaccination, and release of feral cats.	Introduced 2/26/2021
Rhode Island	RI HB 5462	Would have stated that the trapping and subsequent release of any unowned feral or free roaming cat for the purpose of spaying or neutering of the cat shall not be considered abandonment provided any medical or surgical procedures performed on those cats is performed by a licensed veterinarian.	Sine Die - Failed

West Virginia	WV HB 2966	Would have made it unlawful for a political subdivision or municipality to pass or enforce an ordinance that would allow feral cats to be trapped and killed. The capture and release of a feral cat by a TNR participant would still be permitted.	Sine Die - Failed
---------------	----------------------------	---	-------------------

Liability

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Hawaii	HI SB 609 HI HB 1086	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide veterinarians who render emergency care to an animal immunity from civil liability in the absence of gross negligence; 2. Provide veterinarians who render emergency treatment when there is no veterinarian-client-patient relationship immunity from civil liability in the absence of gross negligence; and, 3. Require veterinarians to report events of animal injury, death, or abuse to law enforcement where there is reasonable cause to believe that it relates to dog fighting or animal abuse and give veterinarians immunity for civil liability for making the reports. 	Introduced 1/22/21 Introduced 1/27/21
Iowa	IA HF 746	Clarifies that the statute of limitations for recovery from injuries to a person or property by a licensed veterinarian is two years.	Enacted 4/30/2021
Iowa	IA HSB 170	Would provide that a licensed veterinarian is immune from administrative, civil, or criminal liability in investigations or proceedings involving the mistreatment of animals.	Introduced 2/1/21
New York	NY S 2820	Would provide strict liability for medical costs resulting from a dog bite or bites.	Introduced 1/25/2021
Texas	TX HB 365	Provides limited liability for certain activities involving equine and farm animals (horse, pony, mule, donkey, hinny, bovine, sheep, goat, pig, hog, ratite, ostrich, rhea, emu, chick or other fowl), including health management activities, assisting in medical treatment, vaccinating, transporting, and education of students.	Enacted 6/4/2021
Texas	TX HB 2850	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides immunity from civil liability to a veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician, or certified veterinary assistant who in good faith and as a volunteer provides veterinary care or treatment to an animal in an accident or emergency; and, 2. Allows a veterinarian to share factual information in response to false information shared by a client or animal owner in a public forum so long as the veterinarian does not share personally identifiable information other than the full name of the client or owner. 	Enacted 6/15/2021

Licensure

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S 1754	Would have directed a regulating authority to establish criteria for granting licenses, certificates or registrations through apprenticeship programs, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians, and provide the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An applicant must complete a U.S. Department of Labor-approved or a Department of Economic Security-approved apprenticeship program in the professional area the applicant is seeking a licensure, certification or registration, either at a school licensed by Arizona or by training with a person who is licensed by Arizona who holds the same license, certificate or registration for which the applicant is applying; and, 2. If the regulating authority requires completion of an exam for licensure, certification or registration, the applicant must 	Sine-Die Failed

		successfully complete the exam. The passing score on the exam cannot discriminate between an applicant from an apprenticeship program and an applicant from a vocational or trade school.	
Arkansas	<u>AR HB 1553</u>	Would have allowed an individual, including a veterinarian or veterinary technician, to work in a profession following the completion of an approved apprenticeship program and fulfill licensing requirements.	Failed
Arkansas	<u>AR HB 1667</u>	Would have required the licensing board to issue an occupational license to an applicant who is a resident of Arkansas so long as the applicant meets certain requirements, including: 1. Licensed and in good standing in at least one other state; 2. Held the license for at least one year; and, 3. Met the minimum education and work experience requirements.	Sine-Die Failed
Idaho	<u>ID HB 64</u>	Regarding the Veterinary Practice Act, removes the definition “immediate supervision” and create an avenue for licensure by endorsement.	Enacted 3/16/2021
Indiana	<u>IN HB 1408</u>	Would have required a license be issued to an individual who is licensed in the regulated occupation in another state or jurisdiction; has established residency in Indiana; has passed a substantially equivalent examination as determined by the board; is and has been in good standing in the individual's licensure in the other jurisdiction; pays a fee to the board; and completes the licensure application form required by the board.	Sine-Die Failed
Maine	<u>ME LD 1131 (HP 809)</u>	Would have required a licensing board to issue an occupational license for an applicant who meets certain requirements, including: 1. Holding a current and valid occupational license issued by a board in another state; 2. Holding the occupational license issued in the other state for at least one year; 3. Passing an examination or meeting education, training or experience standards by the issuing board in the other state which are substantially similar to those required in Maine; and, 4. Being in good standing with the issuing board in the other state.	Failed
Massachusetts	<u>MA S 233</u>	Would mandate the division of professional licensure to develop and implement an automatic license renewal system, which would notify licensed professionals of an upcoming license expiration date and offer the ability to automatically renew the license online, wherever possible.	Introduced 2/9/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA H 378</u>	Would require an individual to obtain a license to be able to groom pets; licensure would require passing a test created by the Division of Animal Health of The Department of Agricultural Resources.	Introduced 2/17/2021
Michigan	<u>MI HB 4726</u>	Would grant temporary licenses [90 days] to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine or the practice as a veterinary technician during certain emergencies or to respond to large-scale animal cruelty cases.	Introduced 4/28/2021
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 266</u>	Would abolish occupational licensing in Minnesota and stop enforcement of any statute, session law, or administrative rule that relates to an occupational licensing requirement. This would apply to any occupational license issued by a state agency or board.	Introduced 1/21/21
Nebraska	<u>NE LB 263</u>	Would require occupational boards to issue an occupational license based on occupational licensure in another state and allow for jurisprudential examinations.	Introduced 1/11/21
North Carolina	<u>NC SB 545</u>	Would require an occupational licensing board or a State agency licensing board to issue a license, certification, or registration to any applicant who establishes residence in this state, and satisfies all stated conditions, including:	Introduced 4/5/2021

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant is currently licensed, certified, or registered in at least one other jurisdiction in the discipline applied for in this state at the same or substantially equivalent practice level; 2. The applicant has been licensed, certified, or registered by another jurisdiction for at least one year; 3. The applicant is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a license, certification, or registration; and, 4. The applicant does not have any active or pending disciplinary actions from an occupational licensing board or agency in another jurisdiction, and, if applicable, the occupational licensing board or State agency has completed verification. 	
Ohio	OH HB 203 OH SB 131	<p>Would require the state veterinary medical licensing board to issue a license to an applicant to practice veterinary medicine or for a veterinary technician if either of the following applies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant holds a license in another state; or, 2. The applicant has satisfactory work experience, a government certification, or a private certification as described in that chapter in the practice of veterinary medicine in a state that does not issue that license. 	<p>Introduced 3/10/2021</p> <p>Introduced 3/16/2021</p>
Oklahoma	OK HB 1981	Would create professional and occupational licensing recognition for the issuance of licenses for applicants moving to and residing in Oklahoma.	Introduced 2/1/21
Oklahoma	OK HB 2873	Would provide for the issuance of licenses to applicants at the same practice level as the applicant held in another state.	Introduced 2/1/21
Oregon	OR SB 17	Would have allowed out-of-state applicants seeking occupational licenses in Oregon more time to meet Oregon standards if the applicant is already licensed in another state and is seeking to work in the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region.	Failed
Texas	TX HB 4181	Would have criminalized practicing veterinary medicine without a license as a felony.	Sine Die - Failed
Washington	WA HB 1401	Would direct the department of licensing to establish procedures to expedite the licensing application process for all individuals moving from out of state if the requirements for licensure, certification, or registration of the other state are substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.	Introduced 1/27/21
Wisconsin	WI SB 469	Would require a reciprocal credential to be given if the person holds a license, certification, registration, or permit granted by another state that qualifies the person to practice the profession authorized under the analogous credential granted by the Department of Safety and Professional Services or the appropriate board.	Introduced 8/5/2021

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	AK 18 AAC 36	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amends regulatory requirements for sheep and goat testing to require screening for <i>Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae</i>; and, 2. Includes <i>Mycoplasma ovipneumonia</i> to the reportable disease list. 	Finalized 8/7/2021
Arizona	AZ HB 2525	Would have amended enclosure requirements for egg-laying hens for egg producers operating or controlling the operation of an egg ranch that has more than three thousand egg-laying hens producing eggs, and the sale of such eggs and egg products.	Sine-Die Failed
Arkansas	AR HB 1315	Creates a state meat inspection program, transfer the authority over meat inspection from the Department of Health to the Department of	Enacted 3/23/2021

		Agriculture, and remove the explicit reference to veterinarians being appointed to carry out the rules.	
Colorado	<u>CO 8 CCR 1201-19</u>	Would remove the requirement that Colorado dairies be accredited TB-free and allow for voluntary accreditation.	Published 2/26/21
Colorado	<u>Ballot Initiative 16</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amended the definition of "sexual act with an animal" to include any intrusion of penetration, however, slight, with an object or part of a person's body into an animal's anus or genitals; and 2. Made the act of slaughtering livestock before the animal has lived one quarter of their natural lifespan based on species, breed, and type of animal as cruelty to animals. 	Ruled Unconstitutional
Hawaii	<u>HI SB 346</u> <u>HI HB 538</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require farm owners or operators to confine egg-laying hens in accordance with established standards and prohibit a business owner or operator from selling shell eggs or egg products that are produced by egg-laying hens that were confined in a cruel manner; and, 2. Provide certain exceptions, including for medical research, examination, testing, or individual treatment or operation for veterinary purposes performed by or under the direct supervision of a veterinarian. 	Introduced 1/22/21
Iowa	<u>IA SF 302</u>	Based on an investigation of a complaint alleging livestock negligence, would allow a court to order the temporary disposition of the livestock. Prior to issuing the order, the law enforcement officer would have to provide the court with a statement signed by 2 veterinarians who visited the premises and examined the livestock. If removed livestock was returned to the responsible party, each veterinarian who signed a statement to remove the livestock would be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000. Each livestock removed would be considered a separate offense.	Introduced 2/9/21
Massachusetts	<u>MA H 1008</u>	Would create a task force to develop standards for the appropriate sheltering of livestock from weather elements. Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association would be a member of the Task Force.	Introduced 1/26/2021
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 5927</u>	Would have allowed veterinary facilities for livestock or equine animals to be located and operated on preserved farmland if they solely engage in veterinary medicine for livestock or equine animals and the veterinary facility does not interfere significantly with the use of the land for agricultural or horticultural production.	Sine-Die Failed
New York	<u>NY S 2871</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit medically important antimicrobials from being administered to a food-producing animal unless ordered by a licensed veterinarian who has visited the farm operation within the previous six months, through a prescription or Veterinary Feed Directive, pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; 2. Require a veterinarian who prescribes medically important antimicrobials or writes a Veterinary Feed Directive to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Specify an end date for the provision of the antimicrobial to the animal; and b. File an annual report; 3. Allow medically important antimicrobials to be administered to a food-producing animal only if a licensed veterinarian deems necessary: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To control the spread of a disease or infection; b. To treat a disease or infection; or 	Introduced 1/26/2021

		<p>c. In relation to surgical or other medical procedures;</p> <p>4. Prohibit the use of medically important antimicrobials solely for the purposes of promoting weight gain, improving feed efficiency, or disease prevention; and,</p> <p>5. Require the state board of veterinary medicine to develop antimicrobial stewardship guidelines and best management practices for those involved with administering medically important antimicrobials, including scientifically validated practical alternatives to the use of medically important antimicrobials, such as good hygiene and management practices.</p>	
New York	<u>NY SB 3115</u>	Would ban the use of non-therapeutic antimicrobial agents in cattle, poultry, sheep, swine, or any animal raised for the purpose of providing food for human consumption, including animals that provide non-meat food products.	Introduced 1/27/2021
New York	<u>NY A 475</u>	Would prohibit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any person to tether or confine any pig during pregnancy; 2. A calf raised for veal; and 3. An egg-laying hen who is kept on a farm for all or a majority of a day in a manner that prevents the animal from lying down, standing up and fully extending its limbs, and turning around freely. 	Introduced 1/6/2021
New York	<u>NY A 1301</u>	Would require the owner of any establishment where animals or fowls are slaughtered or butchered for food to reimburse costs associated with capture and return or rescue and rehabilitation of escaped animals.	Introduced 1/8/2021
New York	<u>NY A 3629</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the operation of establishments where animals and/or fowls are slaughtered or butchered for food; and 2. Establish a task force to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conduct a thorough examination of facilities licensed by the department and their effect on public health and safety and animal welfare; b. Consist of seven members, including one from a duly incorporated animal welfare organization, and at least one such representative would be a licensed veterinarian who is not employed by a government agency; and, c. Have members with expertise in infectious diseases and the potential spread of diseases between animals raised or slaughtered for food and humans. 	Introduced 1/28/2021
New York	<u>NY A 7533</u>	Would expand the definition of livestock to include purpose-bred animals raised for research, service animals, honey bees, working dogs or any working animals in service on a farm.	Introduced 5/13/2021
Oregon	<u>Ballot Initiative 13</u>	Would add breeding domestic, livestock, and equine animals to the definition of sexual assault of an animal.	Filed 11/02/2020
Texas	<u>TX SB 1078</u>	Would have expanded existing liability protection to include farm owners when participants, including employees and independent contractors, are participating in farm activities. Such activities would include providing animal health management activities like vaccination.	Sine Die - Failed
Texas	<u>TX 4 TAC 33.1 et.al.</u>	Updates terms and recognizes modern technologies for obtaining Certificates of Veterinary Inspection and adds applicable penalties and violations.	Finalized 10/21/2021
Utah	<u>UT SB 147</u>	Prohibits farm owners and operators from confining egg-laying hens in an enclosure that is not a cage-free housing system or that has less	Enacted 3/17/2021

		usable floor space per hen than required by specific industry guidelines, with exceptions.	
Washington	WA SB 5045	Would develop a grant program for districts to provide access to meat and poultry processing and inspection within the district. Grants could be used for mobile slaughter or needed infrastructure.	Introduced 12/30/20
West Virginia	WV SB 195 WV HB 2549	Would have authorized the Livestock Care Standards Board to promulgate a legislative rule relating to livestock care standards.	Sine Die - Failed

Cannabis | Marijuana | Hemp

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA AB 384	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the Veterinary Medical Board from disciplining a veterinarian who recommends the use of cannabis on an animal for medicinal purposes, unless the veterinarian is employed by or has an agreement with a cannabis licensee; 2. Require the Veterinary Medical Board to adopt guidelines for veterinarians to follow when recommending cannabis within the veterinarian-client-patient relationship; 3. Revise the definitions of “cannabis products,” “cannabis concentrate,” and “edible cannabis product” to include products intended to be used for animal consumption; and, 4. Define “animal” to mean any member of the animal kingdom other than humans, including fowl, fish, and reptiles, wild or domestic, whether living or dead, but would exclude livestock and food animals. 	Introduced 2/2/21
California	CA AB 527	Expands the provisions authorizing the prescription, furnishing, dispensing, transfer, transportation, possession, or use of cannabidiol products in accordance with federal law as changes are made to federal law, to include all products with cannabinoids, not just cannabidiol.	Enacted 10/7/2021
Illinois	IL HB 46	Would mandate that no person may knowingly allow an animal to ingest cannabis, including second-hand smoke, or cannabis-infused products in a way that results in the animal's sickness or death.	Introduced 1/13/2021
Montana	MT LC 1157	Would amend the definition of commercial feed to include the use of hemp seed products for use as feed or for mixing in feed for a pet, specialty pet, or livestock.	Draft review 2/8/21
Nevada	NV AB 101	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allows a veterinarian to administer a product containing hemp or CBD which contains not more than 0.3% THC or recommend to the owner the use of such a product to treat a condition of the animal; and, 2. Prohibits the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners from taking disciplinary action against a licensed veterinarian or the facility in which a licensed veterinarian engages in the practice of veterinary medicine based on the administration or recommendation of such a product. 	Enacted 5/28/2021
Oklahoma	OK HB 2179	Would provide for animal patient medical marijuana licenses.	Introduced 2/1/2021
Rhode Island	RI SB 252	Would have allowed a licensed veterinarian to provide an animal that is certified by a veterinary practitioner as having a debilitating medical condition with a written certification for medical marijuana. A written certification is a statement signed by a practitioner stating that, in the practitioner's professional opinion, the potential benefits of the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the health risks for the patient.	Sine Die - Failed

Rhode Island	RI HB 5190	Would have made domestic pets eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.	Sine Die - Failed
--------------	----------------------------	--	-------------------

Damages | Malpractice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ HB 2368	<p>Would have amended unprofessional or dishonorable conduct to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the definition of "malpractice", "gross incompetence" and "gross negligence," the failure of a veterinarian who examines an animal to provide the animal's owner or caretaker with all the medical information about the animal that is relevant to the animal's health, including disclosing all of the fully informed decision whether to pursue further treatment of the animal with that veterinarian or with another veterinarian; 2. Failing to provide records or copies of records of veterinary medical services, including copies of radiographs, to an animal owner or another licensed veterinarian currently providing veterinary medical services within 10 days after the date of the animal owner's or licensed veterinarian's request, or in fewer than 10 days if the animal's medical condition requires; and 3. Making a false statement or altering any document, record or report concerning the medical treatment of an animal. <p>Would have allowed that a person has a private right of action in superior court against a veterinarian if the person is in a veterinarian-client patient relationship with the veterinarian and the veterinarian does not fully disclose all of the information about the animal's medical condition to the person, resulting in the person's pursuit of additional veterinary care for the animal to save the animal's life or diminish the animal's suffering.</p>	Sine-Die Failed
Iowa	IA SSB 1090	Would provide a statute of limitations for an action brought for professional negligence or malpractice against a veterinarian by providing that a person has 2 years, instead of the current 5 years, after the date the claimant knew, should have known, or received notice of the injury for which damages are being sought to bring an action against a veterinarian.	Introduced 1/25/21
Iowa	IA HF 746	Establishes a statute of limitations for recovery from injuries to a person or property from a licensed veterinarian from five years to two years.	Enacted 5/18/2021
Maryland	MD SB 292	Would have increased the maximum amount of compensatory damages that may be awarded to an owner of a pet from a person who tortuously causes an injury to or death of the pet to \$25,000.	Sine Die - Failed
Massachusetts	MA S 1341	Would make a person who by willful, wanton, reckless, or negligent act causes the unnecessary or unjustified death of a cat or dog to be liable in damages for the fair monetary value of the deceased animal to the owner of the animal, including, but not limited to, damages for the loss of comfort, protection, companionship, other special damages, services of the deceased animal to its owner. Reasonable afterlife expenses, court costs and attorney's fees, and other reasonable damages could be assessed. Non-economic damages would have a cap value of \$30,000.00.	Introduced 1/25/2021
New York	NY A 3732	Would allow the court to consider evidence regarding the bond between the companion animal and the companion animal's owner and award punitive damages where physical injury or death to a companion animal was unjustifiable and intentionally or recklessly caused.	Introduced 1/28/2021

Pharmaceuticals Prescription Drug Monitoring Program			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	<u>AK HB 91</u>	Would exempt veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database.	Introduced 2/18/2021
Arkansas	<u>AR HB 1107</u>	Amends the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act to require prescribers or dispensers, or both, to provide physical copies of written or electronic prescriptions upon request to validate data submitted to the program in order to evaluate the information reported by the program.	Enacted 2/4/2021
Arkansas	<u>AR HB 1107</u>	Requires prescribers or dispensers, or both, to provide physical copies of written or electronic prescriptions upon request to validate data submitted to the program in order to evaluate the information reported by the program.	Enacted 2/4/21
Idaho	<u>ID HB 40</u>	Removes the allowance for a veterinarian or a veterinary medical facility to accept and reissue drugs donated if the drug, being a liquid, is packaged in a single dose in an ampule or vial.	Enacted 3/16/2021
Illinois	<u>IL HB 3283</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require a veterinarian to provide, in person or through electronic means, consultation to the client each time a veterinarian initially prescribes, dispenses, or furnishes a veterinary prescription drug to an animal patient in an outpatient setting; 2. Require a veterinarian to provide available drug documentation if requested by the client; and, 3. Allow a veterinarian to delegate to a certified veterinary technician or veterinary assistant the task of providing consultation and drug documentation. 	Introduced 2/19/2021
Illinois	<u>IL HB 3720</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct the Environmental Protection Agency, advised by the state board of pharmacy, to administer a drug and sharps waste stewardship program; and, 2. Require covered entities, such as drug manufacturers and distributors, to implement stewardship plans. 	Introduced 2/19/2021
Indiana	<u>IN SB 73</u>	Would allow a prescriber to issue an initial prescription of an opioid for more than a seven-day supply if the patient has chronic intractable pain. Under current law, if the prescription is for an animal that is being prescribed an opioid for the first time by the veterinarian, the initial prescription may not exceed a seven-day supply.	Introduced 1/4/2021
Iowa	<u>IA ARC 5369C</u>	Would amend the Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program to implement changes made to the Iowa Code during the 2020 Legislative Session, including allowing veterinarians to report dispensed prescriptions and access to program data.	Proposed notice of intended action 12/30/20
Iowa	<u>IA ARC 6012C</u>	Would identify the minimum required elements of collaborative pharmacy practice agreements between pharmacists and Iowa-licensed practitioners, including veterinarians.	Published 11/3/2021
Maine	<u>ME LD 4 (SP 11)</u>	Requires the Maine Board of Pharmacy, in consultation with the Maine Board of Veterinary Medicine, to adopt rules establishing the terms and conditions for compounding for veterinarian office use, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requirements and specifications of minimum professional and technical equipment, environments, supplies and procedures and quality assurance requirements; 2. Labeling requirements; 	Enacted 6/21/2021

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Limits on the supply for administration to the veterinarian's patient and the supply for dispensing to the veterinarian's client; 4. Record-keeping requirements; and, 5. Procedures for notifications regarding defective drug products and adverse events. 	
Maine	<u>ME LD 8 (SP 15)</u>	Requires drug manufacturers to operate a drug take-back stewardship program to collect and dispose of certain drugs, including veterinary drugs.	Enacted 6/8/2021
Maine	<u>ME LD 799 (SP 71)</u>	Delays requirement that veterinarians must electronically prescribe a benzodiazepine or opioid medication until to July 1, 2025.	Enacted 5/25/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA S 1511</u>	Would mandate that only a dentist, nurse, physician, podiatrist, perfusionist, optometrist, or veterinarian could administer any controlled substance in schedule II, III, IV, V, or VI.	Introduced 2/17/2021
Nebraska	<u>NE LB 252</u>	<p>Provides for refills pursuant to certain veterinary drug orders as prescribed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A veterinary drug distributor could refill and distribute a veterinary legend drug pursuant to a veterinary drug order by a veterinarian licensed in Nebraska pursuant to a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship without the prescriber's authorization if the prescriber is deceased and continuation of the veterinary legend drug is necessary for the animal's health, safety, and welfare; 2. A refill would be limited in quantity to the amount sufficient to maintain the animal's health, safety, and welfare until a bona fide veterinarian-client-patient relationship can be established with a licensed veterinarian, but in no event could the quantity exceed a 30-day supply; 3. If a licensed veterinarian indicates on a veterinary drug order that no emergency refills are authorized, a veterinary drug distributor would not be allowed to dispense that veterinary drug order; and, 4. This would not apply to controlled substances. <p>A veterinary drug distributor will not be required to refill any veterinary drug order and will not be liable for any damages resulting from refilling a veterinary drug order issued by a licensed veterinarian unless such damages were a result of the gross negligence of the veterinary drug distributor.</p>	Enacted 4/14/2021
New Mexico	<u>NM 16.19.30 NMAC</u>	<p>Allows pharmacies to distribute compounded controlled substances for veterinary office use if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The preparation is not readily available from an outsourcing facility; 2. Ordering and distribution occur in compliance with applicable state and federal law; 3. The pharmacy is registered with the DEA as a manufacturer; and, 4. Product bears a statement "For administration only. Not for dispensing or resale." 	Finalized 9/14/2021
New York	<u>NY S 1289</u>	Would require veterinarians to notify owners of potential risks and side effects of medication verbally or through electronic means prior to prescribing or otherwise providing medication to an animal.	Introduced 1/11/2021
New York	<u>NY S 4247</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a pharmacist to dispense drugs, including veterinary specific compounded medications, to a veterinarian; and, 2. Allow a veterinarian to possess and keep in stock for administration and sale, such drugs pursuant to a non-patient 	Introduced 2/3/2021

		specific regimen prescribed or ordered by any practitioner of veterinary medicine.	
New York	NY S 6838	Would remove the veterinary exemption for mandatory electronic prescribing.	Introduced 5/19/2021
Oklahoma	OK HB 2656	Provides that any prescription drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration that is designated, rescheduled or deleted as a controlled substance under federal law by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration would be excluded from Schedule I and be prescribed, dispensed or used in accordance with federal law upon the issuance of a notice or rule by the DEA, unless and until the Board of Pharmacy takes action. If the Board of Pharmacy does not act, the drug product would be deemed to be designated, rescheduled or deleted as a controlled substance in accordance with federal law.	Enacted 4/26/2021
Rhode Island	RI SB 489	Establishes a process for the donation of unused medications for use by nonprofit, state and local facilities by owners of animals.	Enacted 7/3/2021
Rhode Island	RI SB 879	Allows pharmacists to administer medications but excludes administration by pharmacists to animals.	Enacted 7/12/2021
Rhode Island	RI HB 5041	Would have mandated drug manufacturers to establish, fund, and manage a state approved drug take back program for the safe collection and disposal of unused covered drugs, including drugs for veterinary use.	Sine Die - Failed
Texas	TX HB 4173	Would have prohibited pharmacists and licensing authorities from using a veterinarian's DEA registration number for a purpose other than a purpose described by federal law.	Sine Die - Failed
West Virginia	WV HB 2028	Exempts veterinarians from the requirements of controlled substance monitoring.	Enacted 5/20/2021
West Virginia	WV HB 2262	Removes the requirement that a veterinarian review the controlled substance monitoring database.	Enacted 3/11/2021

Pet Insurance

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA AB 553	Would: 1. Expand the definition of veterinary expenses to include costs associated with medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment provided by a person working under the direction of a veterinarian in addition to that provided by a veterinarian; and, 2. Require a pet insurance policy provide full coverage for a sterilization surgery and the veterinary expenses associated with, or arising from, the sterilization surgery.	Introduced 2/10/21
New Jersey	NJ A 5397	Would require pet shops to display a notice concerning the availability of pet insurance which includes a link to the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance webpage addressing pet health insurers.	Introduced 2/23/21
New York	NY A 3711 / NY S 7587	Would regulate the issuance of pet insurance including preventing a policy to be issued if the policy excludes any of the following: 1. A preexisting condition; 2. A congenital anomaly or disorder; 3. A hereditary disorder; or, 4. A chronic condition.	Introduced 1/28/2021
New York	NY S 7587	Would establish a framework to regulate the pet insurance industry by: 1. 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; and,	Introduced 12/10/2021

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Require that a summary description of the method used to determine claim payments be provided; and, 3. Allow consumers to return the policy within 30 days if no claim has been paid out. 	
Rhode Island	RI HB 5903	Would have mandated that pet insurance policies provide notice in bold print of coverage exclusions and provide coverage for routine and preventative care and be allowed to provide coverage for wellness visits.	Sine Die - Failed

Scope of Practice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ HB 2626	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow a veterinarian to perform declawing of a cat only if the veterinarian is licensed and the procedure is for a therapeutic purpose; and, 2. Require a veterinarian who performs a declawing, onychectomy or tendonectomy on a cat to keep a record of the procedure for at least 4 years after the veterinarian's last contact with the cat. 	Introduced 1/23/21
Arkansas	AR HB 1142	Recognizes artificial insemination of livestock and animals as a routine animal husbandry practice.	Enacted 2/23/21
Arkansas	AR HB 1268	Would allow for certification of chiropractors by the equivalent of the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association. Currently, chiropractors licensed and certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association are not prohibited from performing chiropractic upon animals.	Enacted 3/17/2021
California	CA SB 585	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit a person from removing or disabling a cat's claws by performing a declawing procedure, as defined, except when a phalangectomy is performed solely for a therapeutic purpose and must be performed by a licensed veterinarian; and, 2. Require a veterinarian, on or before 10 business days after performing phalangectomy, shall file a written statement, including the corresponding independent laboratory pathology report confirming the pathology, with the Veterinary Medical Board. 	Introduced 2/18/2021
Connecticut	CT HB 5512	Would have prohibited the practice of declawing cats.	Sine Die - Failed
District of Columbia	DCB24-0560	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit nontherapeutic declawing of cats; 2. 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; 3. Authorize animal control officers' emergency vehicles to use emergency lights and sirens when responding to life threatening animal-related emergencies; 4. Allow the Washington Humane Society to recover costs incurred when caring for and boarding seized animals during the pendency of criminal or other proceedings; 5. Ban specific tools used in training or facilitating dog fighting, i.e. breaking sticks, modified treadmills, fighting pits; and, 6. Require pet stores to sell only rescued life dogs, cats, or aquatic turtles. 	Introduced 12/21/2021
Idaho	ID H 404	Would allow for indirect supervision of a chiropractic allied health professional (who is licensed by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association and is in good standing with the State Board of	Introduced 5/5/2021

		Chiropractic Physicians and any other board that oversees chiropractic medicine) to perform treatment or an examination without written or oral instructions by a supervising veterinarian prior to treatment by the professional.	
Illinois	<u>IL HB 337</u>	Would allow state-licensed chiropractic physicians who are certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association to perform chiropractic care on animals without being under the supervision of a veterinarian.	Introduced 1/27/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA H 320</u>	Would define “Equine dental practitioner” as a person who is a veterinarian or who is certified by the international association of equine dentistry.	Introduced 2/16/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA H 321</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow the floating of teeth or removal of deciduous caps or erupted, non-displaced wolf teeth in horses by a licensed equine dental practitioner; 2. Define “floating teeth” as the application or use of any instrument, device, or scaler to any portion of the horse’s tooth to reduce or eliminate calculus, soft deposits, plaque, or the removal of enamel points and the smoothing, contouring, filing and scaling of tooth surfaces as well as removal of deciduous caps but does not include treating decay, tumors, or other procedures that invade the soft tissue in the mouth; and, 3. Only allow controlled substances to be used by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. 	Introduced 2/16/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA S 222</u>	Would prohibit declawing, onychectomy, or tendonectomy of a cat, unless completed for a therapeutic purpose.	Introduced 2/17/2021
Minnesota	<u>MN SF 266 / MN HF 319</u>	Would require a licensed chiropractor to register with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners in order to practice animal chiropractic. A licensed chiropractor would still be required to have a referral from a veterinarian.	Introduced 1/25/2021
Montana	<u>MT SB 103</u>	Would have removed the exam requirement for embryo transfer technicians.	Failed 4/29/2021
Montana	<u>MT SB 347 MT LC 3052</u>	Would have allowed a person certified by the International Association of Equine Dentistry to provide teeth floating services, which includes the removal of enamel points and the smoothing, contouring, and leveling of dental arcades and incisors of equine and other farm animals.	Failed 4/29/2021
Nevada	<u>NV AB 209</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibited a person from removing or disabling the claws of a cat by performing certain procedures unless necessary to address the physical medical condition of the cat; 2. Prohibited the removal or disabling of the claws of a cat for cosmetic, aesthetic or convenience reasons; and, 3. Required a licensed veterinarian who determines that the removal or disabling of the claws of a cat is necessary to address a physical medical condition to file a written statement with the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners setting forth the purpose for performing the procedure and providing the name and address of the owner or keeper of the cat and provide a copy of the statement to the owner or keeper of the cat. 	Sine Die – Failed
New York	<u>NY A 2182</u>	Would exclude the use of equine pulsed electromagnetic field therapy from the practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 1/14/2021
New York	<u>NY A 2012 NY S 1125</u>	Would prohibit surgical devocalization of a dog or cat unless the procedure is medically necessary. Any veterinarian who knowingly	Introduced 1/7/2021

		performs a surgical devocalization would be subject to the revocation or suspension of their license.	
New York	NY S 461	Would prohibit ear clipping and tail docking of dogs and cats unless deemed medically necessary to protect the life or health of the dog or cat.	Introduced 1/6/2021
North Carolina	NC SB 651	Would: 1. Define veterinary consulting as any person, whose expertise the veterinarian believes would benefit the veterinarian's patient, provides advice by any means of communication to a veterinarian at the veterinarian's direction or request; 2. Specify that veterinary consulting does not constitute the practice of veterinary medicine by that act alone; and, 3. Eliminate the term veterinary student preceptee.	Introduced 4/6/2021
Ohio	OH 4734-12-01	Requires animal chiropractors to be registered with the Chiropractic Board.	Finalized 9/1/2021
Rhode Island	RI HB 5616	Would have prohibited declawing of a cat or other animal, unless a licensed veterinarian has determined that the procedure is necessary for a therapeutic purpose.	Sine Die - Failed

Small Business

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR SB 665	Would have shortened not-to-compete agreements from two years to one year.	Sine Die – Failed
Florida	FL HB 1095	Would have mandated that a provider of companion animal cremation services provide, without charge, a written description of the services that the provider offers to, the following: 1. The owner of each deceased animal for whom the provider agrees to provide cremation services, or the person making cremation arrangements on the owner's behalf; 2. All veterinarians, pet shops, and other persons or entities known to the provider who refers animal owners or brings deceased animals to the provider regularly; and, 3. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and any other person, upon request.	Failed
Iowa	IA SF 483	Would preempt localities from prohibiting an animal enterprise or use of a working animal, including commercial or academic use of animals.	Introduced 3/2/2021
Massachusetts	MA S 1246	Would make veterinarian non-compete restrictions void or unenforceable.	Introduced 2/19/2021
Oregon	OR 875-015-0030	1. Amends existing provisions to correspond with recent rule changes requiring documented consent prior to performing diagnostics, treatment, or performing surgery; and, 2. Clarifies that if a client accepts or declines any diagnostics, tests, or other recommended treatments, it must be noted in the medical record.	Finalized 8/20/2021
Oregon	OR 875-011-0010	1. Clarifies that permission for surgery radiographs and diagnostics must be documented in the permanent record; 2. Clarifies that any exams that are declined must be documented in the permanent record; 3. Clarifies that requested patient records must be provided within 3 business days of request; and, 4. Amends “unprofessional conduct” to include allowing unlicensed practice.	Finalized 4/24/2021

Service Assistance Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	CT HB 5452	Would have distinguished between trained therapy dogs and untrained emotional support dogs.	Sine Die - Failed
North Dakota	ND HB 1230	Amends the definition of "service animal" to mean any dog or miniature horse trained to do work, perform tasks, or provide assistance or protection services for an individual with a disability including pulling a wheelchair, lending balance support, retrieving dropped objects, or providing assistance in a medical crisis.	Enacted 3/24/2021

Spaying Neutering			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New York	NY A 644 NY S 195	Would provide a tax credit for spay or neutering services.	Introduced 1/6/2021
Virginia	VA SB 1390	Would have authorized a public or private animal shelter, releasing agency, hospital or clinic, operated under the immediate supervision of a licensed veterinarian to operate a trap, neuter, and return program.	Failed

State Programs Board of Veterinary Medicine			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ Executive Order 2021-02	Would prohibit any rulemaking, including regular, expedited, emergency and exempt, whether informal or formal, without the prior written approval of the Governor.	Introduced 3/5/2021
Arizona	AZ HB 2267	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require a regulatory board to annually review costs, monies in its licensing fund and revenues collected; 2. If the ending balances exceed 50% of the appropriations from that fund in the current fiscal year, require the board to provide a onetime waiver or reduction from licensure renewal fees to reduce the balance to below 50% of its appropriation from that fund in the upcoming fiscal year; 3. Waive or reduce fees for new licensees for the subsequent fiscal year and allow the board to reduce or waive any initial or renewal licensure fees; and, 4. In a year when a fee reduction or waiver becomes effective, require the board to notify its existing licensee of its intention to provide the reduction or waiver and its expected amount and announce the reduction or waiver to new and existing licensees on its website. 	Introduced 1/13/21
California	CA SB 344	Would establish a grant program for homeless shelters to provide basic veterinary services for pets owned by the homeless.	Introduced 2/9/21
Idaho	ID S 1024 ID S 1025 ID S 1026	In response to Idaho Governor's EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2019-01 , moves licensing boards, including the board of veterinary medicine, under the Department of Self-Governing Agencies to the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses and make administrative changes.	Enacted 4/14/2021
Kansas	KS SB 10	Would require every agency to complete a comprehensive review of all occupational rules and regulations and occupational licenses within their jurisdictions to ensure that all occupational rules and regulations are necessary and promulgated to fulfill legitimate health, safety and welfare objectives.	Pre-filed 1/6/21

Kentucky	<u>KY SB 93</u>	Would make the Commissioner in charge of selecting members to the State Board of Agriculture and establish duties for the State Veterinarian.	Introduced 1/9/2021
Massachusetts	<u>MA SD 1829</u>	Would establish an Animal Advisory Board to advise the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, and members would include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The shelter and rescue coordinator at MDAR or their designee, who shall serve as chair; 2. A member of a small foster-based rescue; 3. A member of a larger animal welfare organization; 4. A member of a national animal welfare organization that provides interstate transport; 5. A veterinarian who is certified by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians; 6. A veterinarian experienced with companion animal work; 7. A veterinarian with livestock and/or farm experience; 8. A lawyer with animal welfare experience; and, 9. An Animal Control Officer operating in the Commonwealth with at least five years of experience. 	Introduced 2/18/2021
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 208</u> <u>MN SF 73</u>	Would establish a Companion Animal Board with primary authority for regulating companion animals in Minnesota. The 13-member board would include two accredited, licensed veterinarians who practice in Minnesota; one member from the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota; and one employee of the board of animal health.	Introduced 1/21/21 Introduced 1/14/21
Minnesota	<u>MN HF 1137</u> <u>MN SF 1162</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the Board of Animal Health membership from 5 to 9 members who must be knowledgeable in animal agriculture, animal health, or pets and companion animals; and, 2. Require the governor to appoint a veterinarian licensed in Minnesota, who is not a member, to be its executive director for a term of one year and until a successor qualifies. 	Introduced 2/15/21 Introduced 2/18/21
Nevada	<u>NV SB 65</u>	Requires the Agriculture Director to appoint a State Veterinarian who is a graduate of a veterinary school approved by the AVMA with at least three years' experience in regulating and controlling diseases in livestock and an Administrator to manage activities relating to animal industries.	Enacted 5/20/2021
New Jersey	<u>NJ S 3513</u>	Would have required animal and veterinary facilities to register with the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and to be inspected by the board on an annual basis.	Sine-Die Failed
North Carolina	<u>NC HB 911</u>	Would clarify that the Board of Veterinary Medicine has authority to impose and collect a civil monetary penalty of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from a veterinary facility permittee, in addition to licensees, for each violation.	Introduced 8/5/2021
North Dakota	<u>ND SB 2164</u>	Empowers the board to adopt rules for when an emergency or disaster is declared if the rules are necessary to abate an imminent peril that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the public. Emergency rules adopted would not be allowed to remain in effect for more than 30 months.	Enacted 4/20/2021
Oklahoma	<u>OK SB 542</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require that all occupational regulations be limited to those demonstrably necessary and carefully tailored to fulfill legitimate public health, safety or welfare objectives; and 	Introduced 2/1/21

		<p>2. Require every agency to conduct a comprehensive review of all occupational regulations and occupational licenses within their jurisdictions to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Articulate with specificity the public health, safety or welfare objective(s) served by the regulation; Articulate the reasons why the regulation is necessary to serve the specified objectives; Analyze, where information is readily available, the effects of regulation on opportunities for workers, consumer choices and costs, general unemployment, market competition, governmental costs and other effects; and, Compare the regulation to whether and how other states regulate the business or profession. 	
Oregon	<u>OR HB 2033</u>	<p>Authorizes the State Department of Agriculture to deputize veterinary technicians to assist the department in carrying out its duties. Deputized veterinary technicians would be known as deputy state veterinary technicians.</p>	Enacted 5/25/2021
Pennsylvania	<u>PA SB 907</u>	<p>Would establish the Animal Welfare Board to review existing laws and regulations related to the keeping and handling of animals and make recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes. Notable Board members include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Two individuals from the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association; The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine; The Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania; and, The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. 	Introduced 10/18/2021
Texas	<u>TX SB 713</u>	<p>Extends the sunset provision for the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners from 2021 to 2029.</p>	Enacted 6/19/2021
Texas	<u>TX SB 981</u>	<p>Would have required the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to provide a copy of a complaint to the subject of the complaint.</p>	Sine Die - Failed
Texas	<u>TX HB 3442</u>	<p>Requires the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to provide a copy of a complaint to the subject of the complaint.</p>	Enacted 6/8/2021
Utah	<u>UT HB 163</u>	<p>Modifies the Agricultural Advisory Board membership including removing the Utah VMA representative and replacing it with <u>one representative of an association representing veterinarians, selected from a list of nominees submitted by at least one association representing veterinarians.</u></p>	Enacted 3/16/2021
Vermont	<u>VT 21P030</u>	<p>Would update administrative rules and include provisions to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use of alternative therapies and integration of complementary care providers; Changes to continuing education requirements; Delegation of professional responsibilities; Inspection; Self-Reporting and disease reporting; Record-keeping for companion and non-companion animals; and, Participation by veterinarians in rabies vaccination clinics. 	Proposed 9/1/2021
Washington	<u>WA HB 1403</u>	<p>Would require the department of licensing to review and analyze professional licenses regulated by the department, including veterinary medicine, and submit a report that includes recommendations regarding whether the professional licenses should be terminated, continued, or modified.</p>	Introduced 1/27/21

Taxes: Credits Exemptions Sale & Use			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New York	NY A 6585	Would exempt services provided to board an animal when rendered by a veterinarian from sales and use taxes.	Introduced 3/19/2021
New York	NY A 1200 NY S 522	Would: 1. Mandate that any local law, ordinance or resolution enacted by any city, county or school district does not impose a tax on medicines intended for use in companion animals and farm animals; and, 2. Allow exceptions to cities with a population over 1 million persons.	Introduced 1/7/2021
New York	NY A 1286 NY S 1734	Would establish a tax credit for the cost of veterinary services for up to \$2000 per year.	Introduced 1/8/2021
North Dakota	ND HB 1456	Would have provided a sales tax exemption for materials used in the research and development of bioscience and biotechnology.	Failed
Oregon	OR SB 449	Would have created an income tax credit for taxpayers that expand the workforce, with positions that pay above average wage, by 10% or more in tax year.	Failed
Rhode Island	RI SB 227	Would have eliminated the sales tax on pet care services.	Sine Die - Failed
Texas	TX SB 197	Stipulates that nonprofit animal shelters are exempt from sales and use tax on fees collected for the adoption of an animal.	Enacted 6/4/2021
Texas	TX SB 1711	Would have added veterinary services, including prescribed medications, artificial insemination, breeding services, boarding, training provided by a veterinarian or a person employed by a veterinarian, and medical tests performed on an animal or substances removed from an animal in connection with diagnosis or treatment, to the sales tax.	Sine Die - Failed
Wyoming	WY HB 168	Would have repealed sales and use tax exemptions for veterinary and other services.	Failed

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship Telemedicine			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	AK 12 AAC 68.010, 12 AAC 68.215, et al.	Would: 1. Define requirements for a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, which would prohibit a VCPR from being established solely by telephone or other electronic means; 2. Amend the requirements for the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP), including registration and delegates, outline the compliance requirements for use of the PDMP; 3. Establish a new definition for "veterinary facility" or "veterinary medical facility;" and, 4. Allow for methods for electronic disposal of records in addition to other methods allowed (tearing, shredding, and burning).	Published 4/22/2021
Arkansas	AR HB 1099	Authorizes the Veterinary Medical Examining Board to: 1. Promulgate rules outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine; and, 2. Issue restricted licenses to persons who graduate from accredited or approved colleges of veterinary medicine but have not passed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination to practice under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.	Enacted 2/23/2021
California	CA File 2020-1230-01	Would: 1. Amend veterinarian client-patient relationships (VCPRs) to establish that when the original veterinarian is absent, the VCPR	Published 2/26/2021

		<p>may continue to exist in the absence of client communication when the designated veterinarian serves at the same location where the medical records are kept;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Establish that without a VCPR, prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs constitutes unprofessional conduct; and, 3. Allow a veterinarian during an emergency in the absence of the treating veterinarian to prescribe, dispense, or furnish drugs to maintain the health of the animal until it can return to the originally treating veterinarian. 	
Connecticut	<u>CT HB 6504</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines VCPR and veterinary telemedicine; 2. Requires a physical examination or being personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of providing timely and appropriate medical care or treatment to another animal at the same location where the animal is kept to establish the VCPR; 3. Explicitly prohibits a VCPR from being established solely through veterinary telemedicine; and, 4. Allows maintenance of the VCPR by veterinary telemedicine. 	Enacted 6/28/2021
Florida	<u>FL HB 911</u> <u>FL SB 1370</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allowed a VCPR to be established in person, by telephone, or by other means consistent with the individual veterinarian's professional judgment; 2. Not required a physical examination for the veterinarian to assume responsibility for making medical judgments or providing treatment; and, 3. Permitted an employee, agent, or contractor of an animal control authority acting under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian to vaccinate impounded animals that would be transferred, rescued, fostered, adopted, or reclaimed by the owner. 	Sine Die - Failed
Hawaii	<u>HI HB 472</u>	<p>Would not revoke or suspend the license of any veterinarian or fine any veterinarian solely because the veterinarian engaged in telehealth without a previously existing veterinarian-client-patient relationship or physical examination of the patient.</p>	Introduced 1/25/2021
Indiana	<u>IN SB 3</u>	<p>Requires a veterinarian to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to perform a health care service using telehealth.</p>	Enacted 4/20/2021
Iowa	<u>IA ARC 5848C</u>	<p>Would revise one of the three criteria to establish and maintain a VCPR to read: "b. The licensed veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. Sufficient knowledge means that the licensed veterinarian has recently seen or is personally acquainted with the care of the patient by virtue of an a physical examination of the patient or by medically appropriate and timely visits <u>within the past 12 months</u> to the premises where the patient is kept;"</p>	Published 8/11/2021
Michigan	<u>Substitute for MI HB 4912</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define a VCPR and require that it can only be established by physically examining the patient or by medically appropriate and timely professional visits to the location where the animal is kept; and, 2. Define "complementary, alternative, and integrative therapy" and include the term in the definition of the practice of veterinary medicine. 	Introduced 5/25/2021 Amended 6/16/2021

Michigan	<u>MI R</u> <u>338.4901-</u> <u>338.4933</u>	Requires a veterinarian providing a telehealth service to have sufficient knowledge of the animal patient by having recently examined the animal patient in person or obtained current knowledge of the animal patient through the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically or having conducted medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept.	Finalized 4/15/2021
Nevada	<u>NV AB 200</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines VCPR and veterinary telemedicine; 2. Requires a physical examination or visits to the premise where the animal is kept establishing the VCPR; and, 3. Allows a VCPR to be maintained by telemedicine. 	Enacted 5/28/2021
Nevada	<u>NV LCB File</u> <u>No. R***-21</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Align the definition of VCPR with the statutory definition; 2. Define “physical examination” to mean a physically proximate and hands-on, subjective and objective evaluation of an animal’s health status through the use of observation, auscultation, palpitation, percussion, or manipulation or, for a group of like animals, the veterinarian is physically proximate to the group of animals and has subjectively and objectively assessed a representative sample of the animals; 3. Make a change from annual to biennial renewal of licenses; 4. Define and set conditions for registration if internet and veterinary graduates awaiting licensure; and, 5. Update conditions for veterinary interns and graduates awaiting licensure. 	Published 11/2/2021
New Jersey	<u>13:44-4A.1</u>	<p>Healthcare providers, including veterinarians, engaging in telemedicine and telehealth must hold a license issued by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners if they are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Located in New Jersey and provide health care services to any patient located in or out of New Jersey by means of telemedicine or telehealth; or, 2. Located outside of New Jersey and provides health care services to any patient located in New Jersey by means of telemedicine or telehealth. 	Finalized 03/15/2021
North Carolina	<u>NC 21 NCAC</u> <u>66</u>	<p>Will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define “veterinary telemedicine”, “veterinary telemonitoring” and “veterinary teleconsulting”; 2. Allow a veterinarian to provide veterinary medical services via telemedicine to any patient only after establishing a Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR); and 3. Prohibit a VCPR from being established by any electronic means or telecommunication technologies. 	Finalized 9/1/2021
North Dakota	<u>ND State</u> <u>BVME pub.</u> <u>2/9/21</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define telemedicine and set forth guidelines for its use; and, 2. Propose changes to CE requirements and veterinary technician licensure regulations. 	Introduced 2/9/21
Oklahoma	<u>OK HB 2685</u> <u>OK SB 270</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modifies the definition of "Telemedicine" or "telehealth" to mean the practice of veterinary medicine including diagnosis, consultation, evaluation, treatment, transfer of medical data or exchange of information by means of a two-way, real-time interactive communication between a client or patient and a veterinarian with access to and reviewing the patient's relevant information prior to the telemedicine visit. Telemedicine or telehealth shall not include consultations provided by telephone 	Enacted 5/28/2021

		<p>audio-only communication. A veterinarian using telehealth technologies shall take appropriate steps to establish the veterinarian-client-patient relationship and conduct all appropriate evaluations and history of the patient consistent with traditional standards of care for the particular patient presentation. A veterinarian shall be licensed, or under the jurisdiction of, the veterinary board of the jurisdiction where the patient is located. The practice of medicine occurs where the patient is located at the time telehealth technologies are used.</p> <p>2. Pertaining to teeth floating, removes references that the nonveterinary equine dental care provider specifically complete training and continuing education in equine dentistry at the Texas Institute of Equine Dentistry; and removes requirement to have signed and notarized affidavits from three state residents stating the individual is known by the community as a nonveterinary equine dental care provider.</p>	
West Virginia	WV HB 2968	Would have allowed veterinarians to use telehealth or telemedicine to diagnose and treat animals with which they have a previously existing veterinarian-client-patient relationship.	Sine Die - Failed

Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR HB 1875	Allows individuals, such as veterinary technicians, to work and earn a paycheck while also fulfilling licensing requirements. "Earn and Learn" would not be applicable for any license requiring a bachelor's degree or higher.	Enacted 4/21/2021
Massachusetts	MA HD 2330 MA SD 1897	Would create a subsidiary board for veterinary technology under the Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Determine and establish the criteria and regulations by which veterinary technicians would be licensed and registered; and Establish the duties which supervising, Massachusetts-licensed veterinarians could assign to licensed veterinary technicians, and to non-licensed veterinary assistants, consistent with good veterinary medical practice. 	Introduced 2/17/2021
Minnesota	MN HF 2553	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish veterinary technician licensure, including defining direct and remote supervision; and, Define "veterinary assistant" as an employee of a veterinarian who is not a technician but is able to administer medicine, render auxiliary services, or provide supporting assistance under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician. 	Introduced 4/20/2021
Montana	MT SB 106	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes license and qualifications for veterinary technicians and adds a member to the Board of Veterinary Medicine to represent licensed veterinary technicians; and, Allows a licensed veterinary technician under written authorization and direction of a licensed veterinarian to administer or dispense drugs, medicines, or appliances and perform procedures as provided by rule. 	Enacted 4/30/2021
Nevada	NV SB 336	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Defined the term "veterinary technician in training," "animal chiropractic" and "animal physical therapy" and require registration with the Board of Veterinary Medicine; Made referring an animal under treatment to another practice affiliated with or owned in any percentage by the referring 	Sine Die - Failed

		<p>veterinarian or the facility in which they practice grounds for disciplinary action unless the referring veterinarian first informs the owner of the animal of the affiliation;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Specified that vaccinations for zoonotic diseases must be administered by a <u>veterinary technician</u> (instead of a 'person') under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian as well as a veterinarian; and, Require a finding of malpractice or negligence to now be reported to the Board not later than 60 days, instead of within 90 days, after the finding is made. 	
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 6154</u>	<p>Would have reduced the required number of credit hours for an Animal Health Technician from 18 hours to 12 hours and allow for an applicant with five years of experience in the field who does not meet all the educational requirements to substitute their experience for the totality of the education requirements.</p>	Sine Die - Failed
New Jersey	<u>NJ S 4168</u>	<p>Would have regulated licensure of veterinary technicians by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requiring satisfactory proof that the applicant is qualified to be a veterinary technician in addition to a fee; 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, 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. 	Sine Die - Failed
Oregon	<u>OR 875-030-0040</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the requirement for "direct" supervision of Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT) when injecting, implanting, tattooing, or tagging an animal with a permanent identification device which allows persons who are not licensed as CVT's to inject or implant a permanent identification device under the "supervision" of a licensed veterinarian; and, Amend "inject or implant" a permanent identification device to state "administer" a permanent identification device, clarifying that animal identification devices can be applied to the body of an animal by several methods, including but not limited to tattooing, injecting, implanting, and tagging. 	Published 10/26/2021
South Carolina	<u>120-1, 120-3, 120-9</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Allow licensed veterinary technicians and unlicensed veterinary aides to perform more duties under indirect supervision, which means that a supervising licensed veterinarian is available for immediate voice contact; Define "emergency patient" to establish an animal's medical condition(s) that warrants only indirect supervision by a licensed veterinarian of licensed veterinarian technicians and unlicensed veterinary aides at critical times; Define "radiography" to indicate a broad application as it applies to indirect supervision for licensed veterinary technicians and unlicensed veterinary aides; 	Proposed 10/22/2021

		<p>4. Consolidate the exam requirements and delete the waiver provision which provides for licensure by endorsement from another state with certain conditions; and,</p> <p>5. Change the term “unlicensed veterinary assistant” to “unlicensed veterinary aide” which is defined by statute.</p>	
Utah	UT HB 183	<p>Would have permitted a license to be issued to a veterinary technician without exam if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The person has at least 3 years of experience in an occupation or profession outside of Utah that does not require a professional license to practice the occupation or profession; and, 2. It is determined that the person's education and training are similar in scope to the requirements to qualify to receive a license in Utah. 	Sine Die - Failed
Virginia	VA 18VAC150-20.	Would have allowed an unlicensed veterinary assistant to place an intravenous catheter.	Published 4/12/2021
Virginia	VA 18VAC150-20-115.	Requires an applicant for veterinary technician in the Commonwealth of Virginia to have received a degree in veterinary technology from a college or school accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA).	Finalized 5/12/2021
West Virginia	WV HB 2344	Would have changed the definition of Registered Veterinarian Technicians from “technicians” to “nurses”.	Sine Die - Failed

Wildlife | Zoo Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alabama	AL SB 244	Would have made it illegal to possess, sell, transfer, or breed a large wild cat, great ape, wolf, or non-native bear, with certain exceptions.	Failed
Massachusetts	MA HD 2477	Would define a “wildlife rehabilitator” as any person who is permitted as a state or federal wildlife rehabilitator and practices wildlife care without the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian so far as a licensed veterinarian has issued a predetermined protocol developed with the standard of care as outlined by the licensed veterinarian in accordance to wildlife rehabilitation.	Introduced 2/17/2021
Missouri	MO 3 CSR 10-9.359	Requires wildlife breeders possessing some species of deer to complete annual herd inventory and records in the presence of, and signed by, an accredited veterinarian.	Finalized 8/31/2021
New York	NY A 8177/ NY S 7284	Would prohibit the administration of psychoactive drugs to an animal in a zoo in order to allow another animal to procreate with such animal.	Introduced 7/9/2021
North Carolina	NC HB 811	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit any person from possessing, selling, transferring, or breeding a dangerous wild animal; and, 2. Provide an exemption to institutions accredited or certified by the Zoological Association of America. 	Introduced 5/4/2021