



AVMA State Legislative Update: 2023 Annual Report

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 over **800 legislative and regulatory alerts in 2023** to state and allied veterinary medical associations. This report catalogs those bills and their end of 2023 status.

Last year, all fifty state legislatures convened across the country. In some states, when a legislature adjourns, any unenacted legislation fails sine die. In other states, they have a procedure called “carryover” that allows certain bills introduced in one session to remain active during the successive session. Bills below whose status is not enacted or failed sine die fall into the carry-over category.

Animal Disease and Vaccination

Arizona enacted a bill ([AZ S.B. 1194](#)) that permits a licensed veterinarian to appoint a non-veterinarian as a certified rabies vaccinator to participate in county rabies control programs so long as the person is trained by an in-person training offered by the state veterinarian.

Opposed by the **Virginia Veterinary Medical Association**, [VA H.B. 1468](#) in **Virginia** would have prevented any licensed veterinarian, licensed veterinary technicians, or other employee under the direction of such veterinarians from sharing a fee or imposing costs for a rabies vaccination to exceed \$20.00 or require additional services alongside such vaccination. This bill failed sine die.

There was legislation related to mRNA vaccines last year. Some would have created labeling requirements for food ([ID S. 1018](#), [SC H.B. 3798](#), [TN S.B. 369](#)/[TN H.B. 842](#) and [TN S.B. 0099](#)), others would have prohibited use ([ND S.B. 2384](#)).

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

Antimicrobials

On June 10, 2021, the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration** (FDA) finalized guidance for industry #263 (GFI # 263), which outlines the process for animal drug sponsors to voluntarily change the approved marketing status of medically important antimicrobial drugs from over-the-counter (OTC) to prescription (Rx). All OTC antimicrobial drugs became prescription-only as of June 2023. The FDA has developed a list of medically important antimicrobial drugs affected by GFI #263. Examples of affected products include injectable penicillin and oxytetracycline. See AVMA's website for more information on GFI #263.

As a result of GFI #263, many states considered legislation to address their concerns. In **Arkansas**, AR H.B.1662 became law on April 11, 2023, exempting the sale of veterinary drugs and medicine if based on a prescription of a licensed veterinarian from the licensure requirements for a pharmacist and a pharmacy and declares an emergency related to FDA's June 2023 guidance on OTC antibiotics used in the production of livestock and feed.

In **Montana**, MT SB 561 was enacted and requires a permit to operate a veterinary retail facility, establishes the registration and educational requirements of veterinary dispensing technicians, permits only veterinary prescription drugs to be dispensed by a veterinary retail facility for livestock only, and prohibits an employee of a veterinary retail facility from dispensing controlled substances, compound drugs for dispensing, repackage veterinary prescription drugs for dispensing, or dispense medication for extralabel use.

There was a resolution in **West Virginia**, WV H.R. 16, which would have called on Congress—specifically, their U.S. Senators and Representatives— and the federal government to rescind Guidance for Industry GFI #263 and require that the effected animal drugs and medications remain available over the counter. This resolution was ultimately unsuccessful.

Tangentially, legislation in **Illinois** (IL S.B. 1891/IL H.B. 3567) would require the Department of Agriculture to set a target of reducing the use of medically important antibiotics in food processing by 50%. Also, NY A. 3239 in **New York** would prohibit the use of non-therapeutic antimicrobial agents in any animals raised for food or to create food products.

Continuing Education

New Hampshire VET 400 became effective in March 2023. This new regulation requires veterinarians to complete 30 hours of CE per renewal period, a minimum of 24 hours must be medical courses and a maximum of six hours must be non-medical courses including practice management, professional development, and professional wellness. Also, veterinarians must earn at least one credit pertaining to medical records, law, or ethics and one credit pertaining to opioid use or prescribing of opioids. At least 50% of CE is to be earned through in-person or simultaneously interactive remote learning.

Introduced in **New York**, NY S. 7608/NY A. 7903 would authorize veterinarians to provide free veterinary care services to individuals in shelters as self-instructional coursework. Veterinarians would be eligible to receive credit for up to three hours toward their continuing education requirement.

North Carolina finalized 21 NCAC 66 .0206, which revises continuing education requirements to allow up to five hours to be obtained through independent self-study courses, prerecorded webinars, audio conferences, and non-interactive online presentations. This finalized regulation also permits credit to be earned through live, interactive attendance at courses. For both instances, courses and presentations must be approved by authorized continuing education credit providers. As filed, this regulation would have reduced the required CE hours to 15 hours, but this provision was amended during the regulatory process and the hour requirement remains at 20 hours per calendar year.

Ohio OH r. 4741-1-11 was finalized, which revised continuing education requirements by requiring at least 12 hours (of the required 30 hours) for veterinarians and four hours (of the required 10 hours) for veterinary technicians to be taken in person per renewal period and clarifying there is no carryover for extra hours. Previously, a maximum of 15 hours for veterinarians and six hours for registered veterinary technicians were allowed to be earned through online courses.

Courtroom Advocates

The AVMA opposes bills that would allow a court to appoint an advocate to act in the interests of the animal. This standard—in the interests of the animal—is very different than the standard of in the interests of justice. In the interest of justice includes a variety of societal interests regarding the humane treatment of animals, notions of fairness, and the interest of the owner. While in the interest of the animal has often been seen and used as an attempt to require courts to apply the same types of standards as they would for a child.

In **Connecticut**, CT S.B. 1060 would have allowed the court to appoint an advocate to represent the interests of justice in proceedings concerning the welfare or custody of animals. In **Florida**, FL S.B. 1006 / FL H.B. 989 would have allowed a courtroom advocate to be appointed in the interest of justice in civil and criminal animal welfare cases. Legislation in **Illinois** (IL H.B. 1169) would permit a court to appoint a licensed attorney or a law student authorized to provide services as a special advocate to assist the court and represent the interests of justice regarding the health or safety of the cat or dog.

Another bill of concern is **New York** NY S. 1659/NY A. 111, which would establish court-appointed advocates for animals to act in the interests of the animal. Failing sine die in **Rhode Island**, RI H.B. 5705 would have directed the court to consider the well-being of the pet when determining pet custody between former cohabitating parties and RI H.B. 5918 would have created a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal.

Education and Loan Repayment Programs

Several states considered legislation related to veterinary education loan repayment. Supported by the **Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association** and enacted, AR S.B. 476 establishes the Rural Veterinary Student Scholarship Program. Pending legislation in **California** (CA A.B. 1237) would establish the California Public Interest Veterinary Debt Relief Program to award funds to California-licensed veterinarians in relief of their educational loan debt who enter into a contract with the commission to provide veterinary services in eligible premises settings on a full-time basis. **Colorado** enacted CO S.B. 23-044, which updates the veterinary education loan repayment program by increasing the number of qualified applicants per year from four to six; eliminating the requirement that an applicant must have graduated from an accredited veterinary school in 2017 or later; and increasing the total amount an applicant is eligible for over four years from \$70,000 to \$90,000. While ultimately unsuccessful, MD H.B. 1133 in **Maryland** would have created a veterinary medicine loan repayment program and bills strongly.

Supported by the **Missouri Veterinary Medical Association**, MO S.B. 529/MO H.B. 403 in **Missouri** would have permitted loan repayment for more than 12 veterinarians each year, instead of six; expand the sources of funding for the Large Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program; and, permit recipients to receive up to \$30,000 for each academic year, instead of \$20,000. Still active in **New York**, NY S. 425 would establish the Veterinarians Across Rural New York State Student Loan Repayment Fund for eligible 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. Enacted in March, **Utah's** UT H.B. 184 established the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$2,500,000.

Texas enacted TX H.B. 2026 and removed the requirement for a veterinarian to have graduated from a Texas-based veterinary school to participate in the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program.

In addition to veterinary education loan repayment, states also considered legislation related to their veterinary schools, though those mentioned here failed sine die. CT H.B. 5744 in **Connecticut** would have required the Board of Regents for Higher Education to establish a school of veterinary medicine. Legislation in **Missouri** (MO S.B. 473) would repeal provisions stating that the University of Missouri could be the state's only public research university and the exclusive grantor of research doctorates and first-professional degrees, including veterinary medicine. Postponed indefinitely, NM S.B. 404/NM H.B. 474 in **New Mexico** would have created veterinary medicine loan repayment programs.

Licensure

Delaware proposed regulation DE 3300 which adds the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence ("PAVE") as another method to meet the requirements for licensure. It became effective in September 2023.

In **Florida**, FL S.B. 722/FL H.B. 719 was enacted and allows out-of-state veterinarians to perform dog or cat sterilization services or routine preventative health services at the time of sterilization as an unpaid volunteer under the supervision of a state-licensed veterinarian.

Maryland enacted MD S.B. 390/MD H.B. 325, which requires the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (the Board) to create an expedited process for a veterinarian licensed in another state to become licensed in Maryland. This new law also allows the Board to issue a license to an animal control facility so the facility can administer drugs to sedate and/or euthanize animals and rabies vaccines. Veterinary technicians or other clinical staff who work in an animal shelter or control facility are permitted to administer rabies vaccines if the animal is under the custody of the shelter

or control facility, the veterinarian who signs the certificate has ensured they're properly trained, and the administrator of the vaccine is identified on the certificate.

A new law in **New Mexico** (NM H.B. 384) provides for expedited licensure of out-of-state veterinarians who are in good standing in their jurisdiction and have practiced veterinary medicine for at least five years.

In **Wisconsin**, WI A.B. 332 would allow for reciprocal credentials, including a license to practice veterinary medicine, for individuals with a license, certification, or permit issued by another state.

Mid-Level Practitioner

Despite strong opposition from the **Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association** (ArVMA) and the AVMA, **Arkansas** enacted (AR H.B. 1182) that allows veterinary technician specialists (VTS) to work under the supervision of a veterinarian with a collaborative agreement covering the relationship. Under this collaborative agreement, a VTS could establish a preliminary VCPR, but the veterinarian is required to personally see the animal within 15 days. The VTS can provide a diagnosis or a prognosis, order diagnostics, and establish a treatment plan. They may also perform 'minor' dental and surgical procedures. The introduced version of this legislation gave prescribing authority to a VTS, but ArVMA and AVMA were successful in having this section removed.

While discussions around the creation of a mid-level practitioner took place in Colorado, legislation was never introduced.

Over the summer at the AVMA 2023 Convention, the House of Delegates approved a policy, Safeguarding Care for Animals with Veterinarian-Led Teams, to firmly oppose efforts to allow non-veterinarians to diagnose, prescribe, or perform surgery. This policy directs AVMA to "vigorously defend" against such expansions.

Non-Economic Damages

For 20 years, the AVMA has been working with state VMAs and a broad coalition of groups against legislation that would allow the awarding of non-economic damages in cases involving tortious injury or death to a person's pet. Allowing for emotion-based damages for the loss of pets does not redress that loss, and will instead increase the cost of veterinary care — resulting in decreased access to care. This past session we identified four non-economic damages bills across two states - Massachusetts and New York.

Massachusetts' MA S.B. 1126, which would provide for noneconomic damages in civil litigation for the wrongful death of a dog or cat.

Three bills were introduced in **New York** and all would establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal, but there are some differences. NY S. 4084 would also create an exemption for veterinarians who may cause injury or death during the lawful treatment of a companion animal. NY A. 3976 would create a three-year statute of limitations for such claims. And NY A. 1372 would specifically allow the court to consider the bond between owner and animal when deciding damages.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP) & Pharmaceuticals

After significant efforts from the **Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association**, AK H.B. 56, which exempts veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database was enacted.

Arkansas's Department of Health finalized AR 007.01.23-002, which permits a practitioner, including a veterinarian, to request an annual reporting exemption waiver from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program if controlled substances are not dispensed.

CT H.B. 6380 in **Connecticut** would require the Board of Veterinary Medicine to adopt regulations to limit, monitor, and track the dispensing and administration of opioid drugs by veterinarians for pets. This bill failed sine die. Thanks to dedicated advocacy by the **Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association**, a new law (IL H.B.1358) in **Illinois** was

amended to exempt veterinarians from the requirement that all controlled substance prescriptions must be transmitted electronically to retail pharmacies for two years following the effective date of this legislation.

In **Maryland**, MD H.B. 1227 failed sine die but would have required veterinarians to report information to the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. **North Carolina's** NC H 190 was enacted which adds gabapentin to the state's controlled substance reporting system.

Opposed by the **Oregon Veterinary Medical Association**, legislation in **Oregon** (OR S.B. 559) would have required veterinarians to participate in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and add a practicing veterinarian to the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Commission.

Outside of the PDMP, states also considered language related to pharmaceuticals. Supported by the **New York State Veterinary Medical Society**, **New York** (NY S. 2314) would permit the compounding, dispensing, and sale of pharmaceuticals to veterinarians.

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

NY S. 7459/NY A. 6996 was enacted in **New York**. It amends the requirement that dispensing information to be provided by veterinarians now only applies to an initial

prescription or dispensation and only to cats, dogs, and rabbits for use outside the office. The new law also allows the information to be given in writing or orally with the method noted in the patient's record.

Pennsylvania introduced PA S.B. 959, which would allow for the scheduling of controlled substances in the commonwealth to automatically follow the federal government's Drug Enforcement Administration's classification.

Rhode Island proposed regulation 216-RICR-40-05-14, which would outline requirements for veterinary drug donation and re-dispensing.

Scope of Practice

Reintroduced by the **Missouri Veterinary Medical Association**, MO S.B. 115/MO H.B. 801 would have prevented political subdivisions from enacting, maintaining, or enforcing any order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or similar measure that prohibits, restricts, limits, regulates, controls, directs, or interferes with the practice of veterinary medicine. The **Texas Veterinary Medical Association** was advocating for a similar bill in **Texas** (TX H.B. 1348), which would have prohibited a municipality from regulating the practice of veterinary medicine or prohibiting a veterinarian from performing a procedure on an animal.

Several states had legislation related to the declawing of cats. Legislation in **Arizona** (AZ H.B. 2335), the **District of Columbia** (DC B24-0560), **Florida** (FL S.B. 932), **Illinois** (IL H.B. 1533), **Iowa** (IA S.F. 283), **Massachusetts** (MA S. 190), **Michigan** (MI H.B. 4674), **New Hampshire** (NH H.B. 231), **Pennsylvania** (PA H.B. 508), **Rhode Island** (RI S.B. 403), and **Virginia** (VA H.B. 1382) would all prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes.

AZ H.B. 2335 would further require a licensed veterinarian to request a hearing with the veterinary board and gain its written approval to perform the declaw of a cat. Provisions in IL H.B. 1533 would further prohibit a person from otherwise altering a cat's toes, claws, or paws to prevent or impair the normal function of the cat's toes, claws, or paws.

There is no exclusion provided for procedures like nail filing, nail trimming, or the placement of temporary nail caps as is included in MA S. 190.

There were also bills related to equine dentistry, animal acupuncturists, animal chiropractic, and other related areas that we followed over the year. Legislation enacted in **Arizona** (AZ S.B. 1401) permits an acupuncturist to become certified and treat an animal if the animal has been under the care of and referred by a licensed veterinarian. Also enacted in **Arizona**, AZ S.B. 1194 permits a licensed veterinarian to appoint a person, who is not a licensed veterinarian, as a certified rabies vaccinator to participate in county rabies control programs so long as the person is trained by an in-person training offered by the state veterinarian.

CA A.B. 814 in **California** would authorize a veterinarian to refer an animal to a licensed physical therapist holding an advanced certification to provide animal physical rehabilitation under the supervision of the veterinarian.

Opposed by the **Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association**, **Massachusetts** introduced MA H. 258 which would establish the licensure of equine dentists and define an “Equine Dental Practitioner” as a veterinarian or someone who is certified by the International Association of equine dentistry. And, relatedly, MA H. 257 would remove “floating of teeth or removal of deciduous caps or erupted, non-displaced wolf teeth in horses by a licensed equine dental practitioner” from the definition of “practicing veterinary medicine.”

Legislation in **Missouri** (MO S.B. 471/MO H.B. 88) opposed by the **Missouri Veterinary Medical Association** would have defined an animal chiropractic practitioner as someone who is a licensed veterinarian or licensed by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners and who is certified by a veterinary chiropractic organization.

New Hampshire NH H.B. 258 would have established a certification for animal chiropractors, required an animal chiropractor to receive a referral from a licensed veterinarian in order to treat an animal, and permitted the Board of Veterinarians to establish further requirements for certification and continuing education.

NV S.B. 229 in **Nevada** would have exempted equine dentistry from the practice of veterinary medicine. A bill in **New York** (NY A. 3586) would exclude the use of equine pulsed electromagnetic field therapy from the practice of veterinary medicine.

Oklahoma's OK H.B.1044 would permit a chiropractic physician certified by the veterinary board to provide animal chiropractic care and treatment and permit an unlicensed chiropractic physician to provide animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment if the animal was referred by a licensed veterinarian.

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

State Programs

In **Arkansas**, AR S.B. 403 was enacted. It abolished several state boards, including the Veterinary Medical Examining Board (VMEB). It transferred the powers, duties, and functions of the VMEB to the Livestock and Poultry Commission.

In **New Jersey**, NJ S. 3743 would have added two new members to the state pharmacy board. One new member must be a pharmacist specializing in drug compounding and the other must be a “veterinarian pharmacist,” which is undefined.

In **Texas**, TX S.B. 1414 became effective September 1, 2023. It attaches the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME) to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) until 2027. The original version of the bill would have allowed TDLR to veto any rule passed by the TBVME during the attachment period, but the **Texas Veterinary Medical Association** was able to successfully advocate for this clause to exclude rules relating to medical issues. Also in **Texas**, TX H.B. 4069 was enacted and requires the TBVME to adopt rules requiring a veterinarian to disclose the

description and estimated price of proposed treatment before providing emergency medical treatment.

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) and Telemedicine

The AVMA supports the use of telemedicine in veterinary practice but opposes legislation that would allow the establishment of a VCPR without an in-person examination or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept. The AVMA is also a lead partner in the Coalition for Connected Veterinary Care, an alliance of veterinary and animal health organizations united to empower veterinarians to explore and integrate tools of telehealth into their practices.

After input from the **Alaska Veterinary Medical Association** and the AVMA, regulations ([AK 12 AAC 68.215](#)) were finalized defining the VCPR. The finalized regulations define a VCPR as conducting an initial physical meeting with the client and patient where the veterinarian performs a physical examination, or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient through medically appropriate visits to the premises where the patient is maintained; having sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the patient's medical conditions; assuming responsibility for making clinical judgments for the health of the patient and the need for medical therapy; maintaining patient records; and, providing oversight of treatment and being readily available to provide follow-up care in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen. It also permits initial evaluations of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in regions of the state where there is no locally available veterinarian if travel is impossible; the veterinarian requests that, when reasonably achievable, the patient be presented for an in-person examination or that the veterinarian conducts a medically appropriate visit to the premises where the patient is kept; and the veterinarian provides the client with the veterinarian's identity and clinic address. Telephonic and electronic means are also permitted to be used in maintaining a VCPR for 12 months that follow an initial exam or premises visit.

In **Arizona**, [AZ S.B.1053](#) was enacted and permits the establishment of a VCPR via real-time electronic examination using an audio-video-based communication medium and requires a veterinarian to obtain informed consent and a number of disclosures to

the client. For an electronically established VCPR, a prescription for drugs or medications may be issued for a course of treatment that is up to 14 days, instead of the initially proposed 30 days. Such a prescription may be renewed one time based upon an additional electronic examination, and it may not be further renewed without an in-person examination. It also prohibits prescribing controlled substances without an in-person examination.

In **Arkansas**, AR S.B. 5 would have required the Veterinary Medical Examining Board to promulgate rules outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine to mirror the Telemedicine Act (§ 17-80-29 401 et seq.). Fortunately, this bill failed to garner the necessary votes in the Senate and failed sine die.

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

Early this December in the **District of Columbia**, the D.C. City Council Committee on Health had a hearing on DC B25-0545. The measure would allow a practitioner-client relationship to be established virtually and would require all health professionals providing telehealth services who are authorized to prescribe medications to register with the District and comply with all requirements of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act of 2013. During the December 7 hearing and in support of an in-person examination to establish the VCPR, Dr. Lori Teller, AVMA's Immediate Past President, testified on behalf of the AVMA, and Dr. Janine Calabro, President of the **District of Columbia Veterinary Medical Association**, testified on their behalf.

In **Delaware**, DE S.B. 168 was signed into law. It includes a provision that would create statutory language for a VCPR and require the veterinarian to be personally acquainted

with the keeping and care of the patient by a timely examination of the patient or medically appropriate and timely visits to the operation where the patient is managed. For operations where there are several animals, such as shelters, farms, laboratories, or zoos, the bill would allow for the VCPR to be established and maintained by examination of health, laboratory, or production records, consultation with owners, managers, directors, caretakers, or other supervisory staff who oversee the health care management of the operation, or maintenance of information regarding the local epidemiology of diseases for the appropriate species.

Championed by the **Florida Veterinary Medical Association** (FVMA), FL S.B. 554 would allow the use of telemedicine after the formation of a VCPR through an in-person examination, allow the use of telemedicine to maintain the VCPR and expand the ability of consultants to interact with clients via telemedicine. Opposed by the FVMA, FL H.B. 1117 would allow a VCPR to be established by telemedicine. Both of these measures failed sine die.

In the process of updating their practice acts, the **Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association** and the **Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association** created new provisions related to telehealth and VCPR. In **Illinois**, IL S.B. 2059 clarified that an examination must be conducted in person to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR). Additionally, provisions allow for the use of telemedicine when a physical examination of the patient has been conducted within one year and if it is possible to make a diagnosis and create a treatment plan without a recent physical examination based on professional standards of care. The new law allows a supervising veterinarian to delegate telehealth services to a certified veterinary technician who is acting under direct or indirect supervision.

The **Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association** worked in conjunction with the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) for over a year to draft legislation intended to update and modernize the Kentucky Veterinary Practice Act with KY H.B. 167. The updated law makes it clear that a physical examination or medically appropriate in-person visit within the previous twelve months is required to establish a VCPR while also outlining rules for the use of telehealth. In addition, the Practice Act

now has added requirements for facility registrations and voluntary facility inspections and better defined the roles of veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, and allied professionals in the delivery of animal health care. Further regulations were proposed to implement KY H.B. 167. The proposals would regulate the requirements of animal control agencies, standards for recordkeeping, standards for surgery, and scope of practice and supervisory requirements for licensed veterinary technicians.

Michigan introduced MI H.B. 4980, which would outline requirements for a VCPR and allow for a VCPR to be established through telehealth using real-time interactive audio and visual electronic technology for companion animals. An electronic examination would not be allowed to issue an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection or a pet health certificate. For an animal who was examined electronically, the legislation would prohibit prescribing more than a 14-day supply of a drug and not allow any refills, unless there was an additional electronic examination whereby a veterinarian could prescribe one additional 14-day supply. An in-person examination would be required for the prescription of controlled-substances. In March, a Michigan Board of Veterinary Medicine rule change (MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933) was finalized to require an in-person examination to provide telemedicine services.

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

The **New York State Board of Veterinary Medicine** is considering a proposed policy change that seeks to waive an in-person examination to establish the VCPR for veterinary telemedicine appointments with new clients. The AVMA submitted written comments to the New York State Board in December in support of an in-person examination to establish a VCPR. The Board is expected to continue exploration of this issue in 2024.

Tennessee TN S.B. 1149/TN H.B. 1132 would require a licensed veterinarian who engages in the practice of veterinary medicine for a livestock producer to conduct an initial physical meeting with the client and patient and allow a VCPR to be maintained by electronic or telephonic means for 24 months before an additional physical exam or premise visit is required. The bill would also allow a licensed veterinarian to conduct an initial evaluation of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in remote regions of the state where there is no locally available veterinarian if travel for a physical exam or premise visit is impossible, the veterinarian requests an in-person examination at the earliest date, and the veterinarian provides the client with their identity, location, licensure status, and any privacy or security issues involved in accessing veterinary service through electronic means.

Veterinary Technicians

Legislation has been reintroduced in **Massachusetts** (MA S.207/MA H. 332) and **Minnesota** (MN H.F. 1037) to establish state-level credentialing of veterinary technicians. **Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association** and **Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association** support the respective bills in their states. The measures in both states remain active. Also endorsed by the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association, Minnesota, MN S.F. 1522/MN H.F. 1228 would provide a voluntary pathway for the licensure of veterinary technicians and expand the responsibilities of technicians who are licensed.

In **Iowa**, IA H.F. 670 was enacted and establishes procedures to become a registered veterinary technician (RVT) and permits an RVT to perform equine teeth floating. It also defines “veterinary auxiliary personnel” as a veterinary assistant, registered veterinary

technician, veterinary student, veterinary technician student, or a graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine who does not have a veterinary license or temporary permit and provides the level of supervision required to delegate tasks to veterinary auxiliary personnel. Additionally, it excludes animal massage in the definition of veterinary medicine but includes veterinary acupuncture, acutherapy, acupressure, manipulative therapy based on techniques of osteopathy and chiropractic medicine, or other similar therapies as specified by the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

New Hampshire's Vet 802 was finalized in 2023. It established rules for veterinary nurses, technicians, and assistants. It outlined tasks allowed to be performed by veterinary nurses, technicians, students, and assistants with required levels of supervision, and created a testing requirement for the VTNE.

Supported by the **North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, North Carolina** enacted NC S. 135, which provides title protection for registered veterinary technicians.

South Carolina introduced SC H.B. 4303, which would create a position called a “certified vaccine technician.” The bill would create training requirements for that position and allow them to administer rabies vaccines in animal control shelters under the supervision of a veterinarian.

SD S.B. 142 in **South Dakota** would have provided title protection for registered veterinary technicians, prohibiting a person who is not registered as a veterinary technician, or whose registration has been suspended or revoked, from advertising or otherwise representing oneself as a veterinary technician.

In **Washington**, the Veterinary Board of Governors proposed a rule (WA WAC 246-935-060) that would clarify that a registered apprenticeship program is an approved method for an applicant to become eligible for the veterinary technician national exam and licensure. The Washington Veterinary Board of Governors supported the development of an apprenticeship program and the Washinton State Apprenticeship and Training Council, which is the regulatory authority for approving apprenticeship programs in Washington state, approved the program at their October 2022 meeting. The board may

currently approve the apprenticeship programs but is proposing the amendment to make it clear that a state-registered apprenticeship is an approved method for an applicant to become eligible for the veterinary technician national exam and licensure.

This change was strongly opposed by the AVMA, **Washington State Veterinary Medical Association**, **Washington State Association of Veterinary Technicians**, and the **National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America**, instead encouraging veterinary practices to support their employees in attending accredited programs, some of which are now available online, to help alleviate staff shortages by elevating veterinary technicians while promoting high standards of care for animal patients. This coalition is currently challenging the validity of the apprenticeship program for the veterinary technician profession under Washington state law.

Opposed by the **West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association**, a bill in **West Virginia** (WV H.B. 2995) was reintroduced to change the title “registered veterinary technician” to “veterinary nurse.”

Xylazine

The AVMA has been working with members of Congress and stakeholder groups to address the emerging public health threat of illicit xylazine while preserving veterinary access to this essential animal drug.

Multiple states have considered legislation relating to xylazine this session:

- In **Arkansas**, AR 007.35.23-007 was proposed and would classify xylazine as a Schedule III drug. While the Board of Pharmacy acknowledged that there is no approved use for humans and is used in veterinary medicine, there is no veterinary exemption. This regulation will continue to be considered in 2024.
- In **Delaware**, DE S.B. 189 was enacted and added xylazine to Schedule III of the Delaware Uniform Controlled Substances Act with no exemption for veterinary use; however, the Delaware Department of State Division of Professional Regulation Controlled Substance Advisory Committee issued DE Emergency

Rule Xylazine. Starting June 2, 2023, for 120 days, the emergency order to make illicit xylazine a Schedule III substance, protecting licit veterinary use, manufacturing, importation, and production.

- **Illinois** introduced two bills that would schedule xylazine— IL S.B. 2089 which would add xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and provide for penalties for the knowing manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver the drug, and IL H.B. 3873 would schedule xylazine as a Schedule II controlled substance.
- **Louisiana** introduced LA H.B. 106 which, as introduced, would have added xylazine to Schedule II of the Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substances Law. The **Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association** championed efforts to amend the legislation and the final enacted version criminalized the unlawful production, manufacturing, distribution, or possession of xylazine, but excluded its legitimate use in veterinary practice.
- In **Michigan**, MI H.B. 4913 would make xylazine a Schedule II controlled substance. The **Michigan Veterinary Medical Association** continues to work closely with the bill's sponsor to ensure the needs of veterinarians and their patients are considered.
- Multiple bills were introduced in **New Jersey** (NJ S. 3902/NJ A. 5448 and NJ A. 5488), which would have classified xylazine as a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine. NJ A. 5488 would have required veterinarians to access the state's prescription drug monitoring program any time they issue a prescription for xylazine.
- In **New York**, NY S. 5439/NY A. 5914 would designate xylazine as a Schedule III depressant controlled substance. NY S. 7763 was introduced, which would make xylazine a Schedule I controlled substance with an exception for its use in veterinary practice. This includes purposes of injection to cattle and nonhuman species when such purposes are approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). NY A. 8130 would classify xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and criminalize the sale and possession of xylazine or preparations, compounds, mixtures, or substances containing xylazine.

- In **Ohio**, an emergency executive order was issued directing the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy to immediately classify xylazine as a Schedule III controlled substance via emergency rule. Following the emergency order, the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy promulgated a rule (OH r. 4729:9-1-03) making xylazine a Schedule III controlled substance without a veterinary use exemption.
- In **Oklahoma**, OK S.B. 668 would have classified xylazine as Schedule IV; however, the bill was successfully amended and xylazine was removed from the bill.
- In **Oregon**, the **Board of Pharmacy** considered regulations that would include xylazine as a Schedule I drug. Efforts by the **Oregon Veterinary Medical Association** led to the Board of Pharmacy voting against adopting the regulations.
- In **Pennsylvania**, Governor Josh Shapiro directed his administration to make xylazine a Schedule III controlled substance via a Pennsylvania Department of Health Temporary Scheduling Order. The order expires on June 3, 2024. PA H.B. 1661 passed the Pennsylvania House in October 2023 and would prohibit acquiring, obtaining, possessing, administering, dispensing, delivering, gifting, prescribing, or manufacturing of xylazine except in circumstances of licit use. The definition of “licit use” includes veterinary use and requires veterinarians to comply with the regulations of the Pennsylvania Board of Pharmacy for safe storage of xylazine. Also introduced in 2023, PA H.B.1690 would allow the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to enter into partnerships with healthcare providers, including physicians and veterinarians, to educate the public on the dangers of human use of xylazine and create informational materials, including on the legitimate use of xylazine in veterinary medicine.
- **Rhode Island’s** RI S.B. 738/RI H.B. 5922 was enacted. The bill designates xylazine as a Schedule V controlled substance with no veterinary use exception.
- In September, **South Carolina’s** Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) began the rulemaking process to schedule xylazine as a Schedule III controlled substance with no veterinary use exemption. The **South Carolina Association of Veterinarians** championed efforts to make clear the

importance of veterinary access to this drug, leading the DHEC Board to delay making a decision.

- **Tennessee** enacted TN S.B. 1398/TN H.B. 1242, which criminalizes possessing, manufacturing, delivering, or selling xylazine, but exempts legitimate veterinary practice and possession by non-veterinarians with valid prescriptions from a licensed veterinarian.
- A new law in **West Virginia** (WV S.B. 546) designates xylazine as a Schedule IV controlled substance.

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 6714</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires a veterinarian, in the course of employment, who has reasonable cause to suspect an animal has been harmed, neglected, or treated cruelly due to participation in an exhibition of animal fighting for amusement or gain, to make a report to law enforcement or the local animal control officer no later than 48 hours after gaining said belief; 2. Creates immunity from civil liability for the reporting veterinarian for the act of reporting; and, 3. Prohibits those convicted of animal cruelty from working or volunteering for any entity that involves care or contact with animals for five years. 	Enacted 6/27/2023
Delaware	<u>DE S.B. 71</u>	Creates immunity for anyone who, in good faith, reports suspected animal cruelty to the Office of Animal Welfare.	Enacted 6/27/2023
Iowa	<u>IA H.F. 472</u>	Would create immunity for veterinarians from administrative, civil, or criminal liability resulting from their involvement in animal cruelty cases.	Introduced 2/27/2023
Kentucky	<u>KY H.B. 103</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Included intentional and wanton harm to a dog or cat in the definition of "torture;" 2. Defined "restrain" and "serious physical injury or infirmity;" 3. Provided that torture of a dog or cat is a Class D felony in every instance and that each act may constitute a separate offense; and, 4. Defined what does not constitute torture of a dog or cat. 	Failed Sine Die
Maine	<u>ME L.D. 1216</u>	Would create an animal cruelty task force to provide a coalition of trained professionals to assist with and enhance the enforcement of animal cruelty laws, including the investigation of cases of animal cruelty, one member of which must be a veterinarian.	Introduced 3/16/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 491</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish an Animal Advisory Board to advise the Massachusetts Department of Health (MDAR); 2. Include the shelter and rescue coordinator at MDAR to serve as chair; 3. Permit the Governor to appoint eight additional persons, representing a small foster-based rescue, a larger animal welfare organization, a national animal welfare organization 	Introduced 1/10/2023

		<p>that provides interstate transport, a veterinarian certified by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, a veterinarian experienced with companion animal work, a veterinarian with livestock or farm experience, an attorney with animal welfare experience, and an Animal Control Officer with at least five years of experience; and,</p> <p>4. Permit the board to advise MDAR on issues relating to shelters, animal control officers, animal inspectors, training, and best practices.</p>	
Massachusetts	<p><u>MA S.</u> <u>1142/MA</u> <u>H.B. 1718</u></p>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a task force to complete a review of laws pertaining to animal cruelty and protection; 2. Require the task force to offer any legislative recommendations; 3. Require the task force to be made up of the Attorney General, the President of the District Attorneys Association, the Colonel of the state police, the Commissioner of Agricultural Resources, a Representative from the Animal Rescue League of Boston, a representative from the MA Bar Association, and two appointees by the Governor (an animal control officer and a veterinarian); and, 4. Amend language surrounding the sale, exchange, trade, or display of companion animals. 	Introduced 1/20/2023
Michigan	<p><u>MI S.B.</u> <u>0657</u></p> <p><u>MI S.B.</u> <u>0658</u></p>	<p>Would amend the state’s “Cruel and Inhumane Treatment of Animals” statute and the state’s “Killing, Torturing, Mutilating, Maiming, or Disfiguring Animals” statute to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require animals seized as part of an investigation not be returned to the owner pending the outcome of criminal action and must be taken to a local animal control agency or their designee; 2. Permit the seizure of a service animal; 3. Allow the court to award an animal victim to the animal control agency for evaluation and disposition (transfer, euthanasia, or adoption) if the owner is convicted; 4. Allow the court to order the defendant in an animal cruelty case to pay restitution, including costs of the seizure, care, housing, veterinary medical care, and disposition of the animal victim; 5. Create procedures for seizing and holding animals under these laws and hearing procedures; and, <p>Outline circumstances in which an animal control agency may euthanize a seized animal.</p>	Introduced 11/9/2023
Minnesota	<p><u>MN S.F.</u> <u>3324 /</u> <u>MN H.F.</u> <u>3300</u></p>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish an Office of Animal Protection to assist in the enforcement of animal cruelty statutes with regionally established animal units; 2. Require the Office to assist criminal justice partners in investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases; 3. Require the Office to collaborate with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and other agencies to collect, maintain, and analyze data related to animal cruelty cases; and, 4. Require the Office to educate the public on recognizing and reporting animal cruelty. 	Introduced 5/8/2023
Missouri	<p><u>MO H.B.</u> <u>630</u></p>	<p>Would modify existing provisions related to the confiscation of animals by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requiring confiscated animals to receive proper care as determined by state law and regulations for each specific animal and facility or organization where the animal is placed after such confiscation; 	Introduced 1/4/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Requiring any such facility or organization to be liable to the animal owner for damages for any negligent acts or abuse of such animal that occurs while the animal is in the care, custody, and control of the facility or organization; and, 3. Requiring any person or entity that intentionally euthanizes, other than as permissible under this section, or intentionally sterilizes an animal prior to a disposition hearing to be guilty of a class B misdemeanor and liable to the owner of the animal for damages including, but not limited to, the actual value of the animal. 	
New York	<u>NY S. 7595/NY A. 6863</u>	<p>Would prohibit dog, cat, and rabbit dealers/breeders from operating in-state and online to do business in New York unless they can prove to the government:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The breeder of the animals performs an adequate level of care; 2. The animals have received routine veterinary care throughout their lives and the care was provided by a veterinarian; 3. The animals were raised with an acceptable wellness plan; 4. The animals were raised in safe, enriching living spaces; 5. The source animals used by the breeder were raised in an environment with plans for a healthy life beyond their breeding cycles and that they will not be sold, given, or subjected to research facility; and, 6. The breeders have participated in regularly scheduled continuing education on animal care and welfare. 	Introduced 05/08/23
New York	<u>NY A. 41</u>	<p>Would establish:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That animals are sentient beings capable of experiencing pain, stress, and fear; and, 2. That an animal can be a victim of a crime. 	Introduced 1/4/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 71</u>	<p>Would create a task force on animal laws to examine, evaluate, and determine how to improve the relationship between animals and humans, and the animal protection laws and appointees to this task force must have expertise in fields or disciplines relating to animals, including veterinary medical care.</p>	Introduced 1/4/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 785</u>	<p>Would create an animal welfare board, with one member from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and two members from the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association.</p>	Introduced 6/14/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 1114</u>	<p>Would prohibit transport in a mobile or traveling housing facility for participation in a traveling animal act and defines “mobile or traveling housing facility,” “performance,” “performance animal,” and “traveling animal act.”</p>	Introduced 5/5/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 978</u>	<p>Would establish what constitutes criminal negligence by a pet groomer to a pet in their custody.</p>	Introduced 12/12/2022
Washington	<u>WA H.B. 1234</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defines “minimum care” as care sufficient to preserve the physical and mental health and well-being of an animal and includes food of sufficient nutrition, potable water of drinkable temperature, sufficient shelter, reasonable veterinary care, and access to an area sufficient for exercise; 2. Permits a seized animal to be placed into the custody of an animal care and control agency, foster care, non-profit humane society, rescue organization, or animal sanctuary but constructive custody belongs to the seizing agency; and, 3. Permits a custodial agency to authorize a veterinarian or veterinary technician to euthanize a seized animal that is 	Enacted 5/4/2023

		severely injured, sick, diseased, or suffering for humane reasons.	
West Virginia	WV S.B. 78	Would have defined “aggravated cruelty to animals” to include the failure to provide “medical treatment necessary to sustain normal health,” “failing to provide proper care to end the suffering of any animal,” or abandoning “an animal to die without proper medical care.”	Failed Sine Die

Animal Advocate | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	CT S.B. 1060	Would have allowed the court to appoint an advocate to represent the interests of justice in proceedings concerning the welfare or custody of animals. Currently, the law just applies to cats and dogs.	Failed Sine Die
Florida	FL S.B. 1006 / FL H.B. 989	Would have allowed a courtroom advocate to be appointed in the interest of justice in civil and criminal animal welfare cases.	Failed Sine Die
Illinois	IL H.B. 1169	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a court to, in the prosecution of a case involving the injury, health, or safety of a cat or dog, appoint a licensed attorney-at-law of the State or a law student authorized to provide services as a special advocate to assist the court and represent the interests of justice regarding the health or safety of the cat or dog; and, 2. Permit the advocate to monitor the case, 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, attend hearings, present information, or recommendations to the court pertinent to determinations that relate to the interests of justice. 	Introduced 1/17/2023
New York	NY S. 1659/NY A. 111	Would establish court-appointed advocates for animals to act in the interests of such animals.	Introduced 1/4/2023
New York	NY A. 269	Would allow a court to consider the well-being of the animal when ordering a party to care for the companion animal during the period a final determination order is pending from the court.	Introduced 1/4/2023
Rhode Island	RI H.B. 5705	Would have directed the court to consider the well-being of the pet when determining pet custody between former cohabitating parties.	Failed Sine Die
Rhode Island	RI H.B. 5918	Would have created a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal.	Failed Sine Die
Texas	TX S.B. 1682/TX H.B. 3660	Permits a defense to prosecutions when an actor, including a veterinarian, releases a stray or feral animal as part of a Trap-Neuter-Return Program.	Enacted 6/10/2023

Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1194	Permits a licensed veterinarian to appoint a person, who is not a licensed veterinarian, as a certified rabies vaccinator to participate in county rabies control programs so long as trained by an in-person training offered by the state veterinarian.	Enacted 5/11/2023
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1461	Would:	Introduced 1/30/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a licensed veterinarian to annually draw a rabies antibody titer to determine whether to administer a rabies booster vaccine to a dog if the titer shows an adequate immune response; and, 2. Permit that, if there is an adequate immune response shown by a titer, to be accepted in lieu of a rabies booster vaccination. 	
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1629</u>	Permits an animal owner to confine an animal who has received a current vaccination against rabies when the animal has bitten a person.	Enacted 4/5/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1676</u>	Requires a dog that tested positive for canine brucellosis to have the test results reported to the Department of Agriculture and demonstrate a subsequent negative test before leaving the premises.	Enacted 4/6/2023
California	<u>CA A.B. 332</u>	Would require the State Department of Public Health to collect certain rabies control program data from each city, city and county, or county.	Introduced 1/30/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT S.B. 1069</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires dogs and cats imported into the state to have a certificate of health issued by a licensed, graduate veterinarian accredited by the USDA; 2. Allows the Commissioner and their designee to order testing for rabies, quarantine, control, or humane euthanasia of any animal; 3. Allows any local health director to order the humane euthanasia of any unowned animal not vaccinated against rabies; 4. Allows for any quarantined animal that is diagnosed as rabid by a licensed veterinarian or the State Veterinarian to be humanely euthanized; 5. Requires the veterinarian performing the euthanasia of a rabid animal to be responsible for ensuring the remains are delivered to the appropriate laboratory for testing within 48 hours; 6. Requires all suspected or confirmed cases of rabies be reported to the State Veterinarian; and, 7. Requires the Commissioner of Agriculture to establish a rate of reimbursement every two years for payment to veterinarians who participate in sterilization/vaccination voucher programs. 	Enacted 6/7/2023
Idaho	<u>ID S. 1018</u>	Would prohibit the manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale of any food that contains a vaccine or vaccine material without a label.	Introduced 1/25/2023
Illinois	<u>IL Control of Communicable Diseases Code</u>	Would require veterinarians, animal control officials, animal holding facility personnel, retail stores selling animals, and wildlife professionals to report any zoonotic disease outbreak in persons including contact information for the owner of the animals suspected of causing the outbreak, as well as any new or emerging zoonotic disease illness in a single person or any human contacts to the infected animals.	Proposed 6/2/2023 Closed for Comment 8/28/2023
Iowa	<u>IA S.F. 234 /IA H.S.B. 152</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit a person from owning a dog that is at least four months of age and has not been vaccinated against rabies; and, 2. Authorize a peace officer to kill a dog within their respective jurisdiction if the seizure and impoundment have not been provided for or there is no temporary housing available for the dog; 	Introduced 2/8/2023

Kentucky	<u>KY H.B. 484</u>	Would have allowed certified animal euthanasia specialists to administer rabies vaccines at their place of employment.	Failed Sine Die
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 801</u>	Would: 1. Require a dog brought into the Commonwealth for permanent placement to be quarantined for not less than 48 hours at the residence of the permanent or temporary placement of the dog or with a licensed quarantine facility; and, 2. Require any dog brought into the Commonwealth to be vaccinated for rabies, distemper, parvovirus, and leptospirosis.	Introduced 1/10/2023
New Hampshire	<u>NH S.B. 162</u>	Makes the initial period for an exemption from rabies vaccination valid for one year and requires annual re-certification by a veterinarian.	Enacted 6/21/2023
New Jersey	<u>55 N.J.R. 515(a)</u>	Would: 1. Allow the State Veterinarian to ask the Board of Agriculture for permission to issue quarantines for specific animal diseases; 2. Allow the Department of Agriculture to stop the import of animals either suspected or confirmed of having a contagious or infectious disease or to set up specific entry requirements based upon the originating location of the animals; 3. Provide requirements for the prevention of vesicular stomatitis and provide the Department of Agriculture with ways to control the disease; 4. Recodify requirements for the eradication and control of equine infectious anemia; 5. Establish the New Jersey Contagious Equine Metritis Program; and, 6. Recodify biosecurity requirements, including the cleaning, disinfection, and disposal of any infected premises, protective clothing, or equipment.	Effective 6/30/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 173</u>	Would allow livestock owners to purchase and possess rabies vaccine to vaccinate their livestock against rabies during emergency rabies outbreak situations as determined by the commissioner of health.	Introduced 1/4/2023
North Carolina	<u>02 NCAC 52B .0214</u>	Would waive the requirement for entry permits and official health certificates for rabbits or any species in the order of Lagomorpha, including hare and pika, for exhibitions/shows if: 1. A licensed and USDA-accredited veterinarian performs a health assessment outside of the exhibition/show prior to any comingling with other animals or entry to the event; 2. Any animal exhibiting any symptoms consistent with RHDV2 and any animals it traveled with are excluded from the event and return to point of origin; and, 3. Event organizers make available to the state agriculture and consumer services department event attendees contact information for disease investigation purposes.	Introduced 3/15/2023 Closed for Comment 5/15/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC S.B. 511/NC H.B. 600</u>	Would have allowed healthy cats impounded at a shelter to be sterilized, ear-tipped, vaccinated for rabies, administered other vaccinations as recommended by the treating veterinarian, and released back to the location where they were trapped.	Provision Amended Out 6/28/2023
North Dakota	<u>ND S.B. 2384</u>	Would have prohibited the use of vaccines developed using messenger ribonucleic acid technology.	Failed 4/4/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-16</u>	Requires veterinarians at companion animal vaccination clinics to be readily identifiable to the public by some acceptable means posted in a conspicuous location.	Final File 12/08/2023

			Effective 1/8/2024
South Carolina	<u>SC H.B. 3798</u>	Would require the labeling of food or food products that contain mRNA.	Introduced 1/26/2023
Tennessee	<u>TN S.B. 0099</u>	Would prohibit the sale of meat that has been administered an mRNA vaccine unless it has been labeled as such.	Introduced 1/10/23
Tennessee	<u>TN S.B. 369/TN H.B. 842</u>	Would: 1. Clarify that meat may be labeled as being free of mRNA vaccine if the animals from which the meat was derived were not administered an mRNA vaccine; 2. Remove the authorization for the commissioner of agriculture and the state veterinarian to order vaccination of livestock; and, 3. Clarify that there is no state legal requirement to vaccinate livestock.	Introduced 1/23/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 4816</u>	Would prohibit the Executive Commissioner from adopting a rule requiring a person to report an incident involving an animal bite or scratch if the animal is domesticated and the person does not reasonably foresee the domesticated animal as capable of transmitting rabies.	Introduced 3/10/2023
Vermont	<u>VT H.B. 410</u>	Would add a list of requirements for rabies vaccination certificates and require veterinarians to provide a list of rabies vaccinations to the municipal clerk every 30 days.	Introduced 2/27/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1074</u>	Would have directed the Board of Health to develop an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for animals if a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that the vaccine would endanger the animal based on an underlying medical factor and a titer test indicates a sufficient level of immunity to rabies.	Failed Sine Die
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1468</u>	Would have prevented any licensed veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician, or other employee under the direction of such veterinarians from sharing a fee or imposing costs for a rabies vaccination to exceed \$20.00 or requiring additional services alongside such vaccination.	Failed Sine Die
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1577</u>	Requires any person who confines a dog or cat for active signs of rabies or suspected rabies to allow the Virginia Department of Health access to the animal during its confinement.	Enacted 3/21/2023

Animal Shelters

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ S.B. 1067</u>	1. Establishes a joint study committee on statewide animal control standards, consisting of two members of the Senate, two members of the House of Representatives, one representative of the Maricopa County Animal Care and Control, one representative of the Pima County Animal Care and Control, four representatives of animal control agencies in counties of less than eight hundred thousand persons, four representatives from humane animal organizations, and one veterinarian who is a member of the faculty at an accredited veterinary college; and, 2. Requires the committee to research and report on the need for statewide consistency of animal control standards.	Enacted 5/8/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT Municipal Dog Pound Regulations</u>	1. Sets standards of care for shelter animals, with exceptions for differences due to medical judgment by a veterinarian; 2. Requires mortalities in shelters of animals associated with an investigation concerning animal neglect, animal abuse, or a suspected disease incident to be necropsied at the Connecticut Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory or by a state-licensed veterinarian; and,	Approved 11/28/2023

		3. Requires shelters to maintain records of veterinary care an animal received there for at least two years following release.	
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5575</u>	Requires the Department of Agriculture to update municipal animal shelter regulation standards to include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An update to the allowable minimum and maximum temperatures in animal shelters to be more aligned with private shelters and neighboring states in an effort to avoid animal suffering from unhealthy temperatures; 2. Providing proper and timely veterinary care of injured or ill animals; and, 3. Prohibiting certain animals from being kept together. 	Enacted 06/26/2023
Delaware	<u>DE 4501 Regulation s for Animals Held in Shelter</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require shelters to create protocols for behavioral enrichment and have all veterinary care protocols approved annually by their advising veterinarian; 2. Require animals admitted overnight to receive their vaccinations by noon; 3. Require all animals entering the shelter be evaluated at intake for signs of infectious disease, injury, or illness requiring emergency care; 4. Require a full exam (requirements listed in regulation) must be performed within 48 hours of entering the shelter and prior to adoption; 5. Require animals held at a shelter for one year or more to receive an exam by a veterinarian every 12 months; 6. Require animals in isolation or quarantine to not be in areas accessible by the public and enclosures of animals with suspected contagious disease to be clearly marked to indicate the condition and any necessary precautions; 7. Require isolation and quarantine areas to be separated by species and meet the medical and behavioral needs of sick animals; and, 8. Update information required to be maintained in animal shelter records. 	Proposed 11/1/2023
Delaware	<u>DE S.B. 129</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates standards of care for animal shelters; 2. Requires animals to be vaccinated against rabies before adoption or release; 3. Requires animals who are received overnight to receive their vaccines by noon the following day; 4. Requires animals to be evaluated for infectious disease or illness/injury requiring emergency care on intake and a full exam to be performed within 48 hours of intake and prior to adoption; and, 5. Requires animals who have been in the shelter for a year or longer to receive a veterinary exam every 12 months. 	Enacted 8/17/2023
Hawaii	<u>HI S.C.R. 211/ HI S.R. 151</u>	Requests the Hawaiian Humane Society to develop a program to assist low-income pet owners to afford emergency care for their pets.	Certified 5/22/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F. 2148/ MN H.F. 2013</u>	Would appropriate \$15,000,000 for a grant to the Animal Humane Society to design and contract an animal care campus in St. Paul that includes a veterinary care center and teaching hospital, shelter space for 450 companion animals, and a rehabilitation center.	Introduced 2/27/2023
Missouri	<u>MO H.B. 755</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require that the sole method to induce death in a cat or dog in an animal control agency, animal shelter, or pound be an injection of sodium pentobarbital or a derivative thereof; 	Introduced 1/11/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Provide that if the AVMA recognizes a clinically proven method to be as humane as sodium pentobarbital, that substance can be used if there is a shortage of sodium pentobarbital; 3. Prohibit the use of bottled carbon monoxide gas (or other lethal gas) or a chamber that causes a change in body oxygen by means of altering atmospheric pressure for the use of inducing the death of a dog or cat; and, 4. Require that only a licensed veterinarian, physician, or layperson who is trained in the proper and humane use of methods of inducing death and under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian may induce the death of a cat or dog. 	
Montana	<u>MT S.B. 504</u>	Would have allowed shelters to care for and treat their animals and stray animals.	Failed 5/2/2023
New Mexico	<u>NM H.B. 239</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit an animal shelter from euthanizing or soliciting the euthanasia of its animals; 2. Establish a website to search for missing pets; and, 3. Establish an initiative to help counties secure funds for low or no-cost spay and neuter programs. 	Failed Sine Die
New York	<u>NY A. 5168</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require that animals found abandoned, not properly cared for, or lost, strayed, homeless, or unwanted be made adoptable unless a veterinarian certifies that such animal should be humanely destroyed for health reasons; and, 2. Require shelters to make animals available for adoption for 90 days unless a veterinarian certifies that such animal(s) should be humanely destroyed for health reasons. 	Introduced 3/3/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 3439</u>	<p>Would permit a veterinarian employed by a releasing agency to perform veterinary services if the family or individual's income is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not more than 80 percent of the median income of the area; 2. Less than the federal poverty level for the relevant household size, and, 3. Submits evidence of qualifications to the releasing agency. 	Introduced 3/3/2023
Texas	<u>TX S.B. 1673/</u> <u>TX H.B. 3587</u>	Would require the sterilization of adult animals seized and placed in the custody of a releasing agency more than once.	Introduced 3/6/2023
Utah	<u>UT S.B. 108</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires an animal shelter to use sodium pentobarbital or a derivative as the exclusive method for the euthanasia of an animal; and, 2. Requires an animal shelter that euthanizes animals to adopt a euthanasia training program for any person who conducts or assists with euthanasia to attend at least once every two years. 	Enacted 3/17/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1527</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorized any public or private animal shelter, releasing agency, hospital, or clinic that is operated under the immediate supervision of a duly licensed veterinarian to operate a trap, neuter, and return program (TNR program); 2. Exempted volunteers of such program from provisions relating to abandonment and licensing of animals; and, 3. Exempted the operator of such a program from general requirements of shelters related to holding periods, the release of animals, and recordkeeping. 	Failed Sine Die

Cannabis Marijuana			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Nebraska	<u>NE L.B. 22</u>	Would decriminalize the use and possession of marijuana, including the administration of an animal.	Introduced 1/5/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 2628</u>	Would provide access to medical marihuana for an animal when a veterinarian determines such an animal has any medical condition that may benefit from treatment with medical marihuana.	Introduced 1/26/2023
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 810</u>	Would have made domestic pets with debilitating medical conditions eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian.	Failed Sine Die
Rhode Island	<u>RI H.B. 5504</u>	Would have made domestic pets eligible to use medical marijuana if certified by a licensed veterinarian and provided that the cannabis commission adopt rules and regulations concerning the prescribing of medical cannabis for domestic pet use.	Failed Sine Die

Companion Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 6337</u>	Would have established a task force to study companion animal welfare and examine the laws of other states concerning those animals.	Failed Sine Die
Hawaii	<u>HI S.B. 998/</u> <u>HI H.B. 220</u>	Would: 1. Establish a Spay and Neuter Special Fund; and, 2. Establish an advisory committee that would include a representative from the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association.	Introduced 1/20/2023
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 1492 /</u> <u>FL H.B. 1581</u>	Would have: 1. Created a registration system with the state Department of Agriculture (FDACS) for dog breeders in the state; 2. Required FDACS to adopt rules, in consultation with local governments and animal rescue groups, to set standards of care for dog breeding- including veterinary care; and, 3. Required, upon the death of a breeding female dog, the registrant to submit to FDACS a notarized letter from a veterinarian naming the dog's cause of death.	Failed Sine Die
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 206</u>	Would: 1. Require the Department of Agriculture to establish and maintain the Illinois Dangerous Dog Registry; 2. Require the Department to make the public information searchable via a mapping system that identifies all locations where vicious or dangerous dogs are kept or maintained within five miles of an identified address; 3. Require the Registry to include the address of the owner, the name and breed of the dog, and the acts that resulted in the dog being deemed vicious or dangerous be made available to the public on the Department's website; 4. Require the owner of a dog that has been deemed dangerous or vicious to place a sign by the owner's front door with a notice that a dangerous or vicious dog is kept or maintained at the residence; and, 5. Require the owner to maintain a liability insurance policy insuring against liability involving a dog-related incident for injury to a person or injury to or destruction of property.	Introduced 1/31/2023
Kansas	<u>KS H.B. 2342</u>	Would: 1. Establish the Pet Animal Board of Veterinarians within the Kansas Department of Agriculture;	Introduced 2/7/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Transfer all Kansas Pet Animal Act powers, duties, and functions to such board; 3. Limit procedures relating to the seizure of animals and eliminate no-contact inspection provisions; and, 4. Require a license for animal rescues. 	
Kentucky	<u>KY S.B. 56</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defined "animal shelter," "breeder," "broker," and "retail pet shop;" 2. Prohibited retail pet shops from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits; 3. Permitted retail pet shops to collaborate with animal shelters to showcase dogs, cats, or rabbits; 4. Required retail pet shops to maintain records documenting the source of each dog, cat, or rabbit it sells for at least one year; and, 5. Prohibited the sale or transfer of ownership of a dog, cat, or rabbit in a publicly accessible space. 	Failed Sine Die
Maryland	<u>MD H.B. 365</u>	<p>Would have required the Department of Agriculture to give priority to certain competitive grant proposals that include wellness care for cats and dogs at the time of a spay/neuter, mobile clinic transportation, and transportation services to bring animals to a clinic from an unserved area.</p>	Failed Sine Die
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 1730</u>	<p>Would prohibit any person from possessing, importing, selling, buying, giving away, trafficking, or accepting any dog or cat, living or dead, for slaughter or consumption.</p>	Introduced 1/19/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 2040</u>	<p>Would permit a licensed veterinarian to declare a dog, cat, or rabbit unfit for sale or placement in advance of that sale or placement.</p>	Introduced 1/18/2023
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4838</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit pet shops from selling, adopting, exchanging, or transferring a dog, cat, or rabbit after 7/01/2025; 2. Allow pet shop to collaborate with and offer space to an animal control shelter or animal protection shelter to showcase adoptable dogs, cats, or rabbits; 3. Prohibit pet shops from selling, adopting, exchanging, or transferring a dog or cat before 7/01/2025 without providing a valid pet health certification; and, 4. Prohibit pet shops from selling, adopting, exchanging, or transferring a ferret without a valid pet health certification. 	Introduced 6/22/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F. 1136 / MN H.F. 1168</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish the Companion Animal Board to promote the welfare of cats, dogs, and other pets; 2. Prohibit the board from having jurisdiction over cattle, sheep, swine, goats, farmed cervidae poultry, or otherwise used food, or superseding the Board of Veterinary Medicine; 3. Require the board to consist of four licensed veterinarians (two practicing in the state, one employed by the Board of Animal Health, and one employed by the UM CVM), one county or municipal government employee, one member from a federally recognized Tribe, two at-large public, one member employed or a current board member of an animal shelter, one who is a commercial breeder, and one member who is a licensed social worker or mental health professional who interacts with companion animals; 4. Require the board enforce state laws that regulate the licensing, enforcement, and inspections of cat and dog 	Introduced 2/2/2023

		<p>kennels, dealers, and commercial cats and dog breeders; and,</p> <p>5. Require the board to administer a grant program to provide funding to achieve measurable outcomes in the care and welfare of companion animals.</p>	
Minnesota	<u>MN H.F. 1850</u>	<p>Would establish the Office of Animal Protection within the Department of Public Safety to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote programs to protect the welfare of animals, coordinate with local law enforcement on the prevention of animal cruelty; 2. Provide assistance to shelters during emergencies; 3. Establish and maintain a statewide dangerous dog database; and, 4. Investigate allegations related to dangerous dogs. 	Introduced 2/16/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 3148</u>	<p>Would require the Commissioner of Agriculture to develop and maintain a searchable database of lost and found domestic animals.</p>	Introduced 1/30/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 4108</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a breeder's veterinarian to euthanize an animal suffering from a congenital or hereditary disease; and, 2. Require a breeder to have a licensed veterinarian inspect their facilities, records, and animals every six months. 	Introduced 2/3/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 5432</u>	<p>Would require veterinarians to disclose the cause of death for companion animals to the state department of agriculture when the pet's death is due to illness, disease, or congenital condition and the animal was purchased from a pet dealer within the past six months.</p>	Introduced 3/3/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 2001</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require the registration and regulation of animal breeders; and, 2. Require breeders to have a licensed veterinarian to inspect animal records, facilities, and animals at a minimum of every six months. 	Introduced 1/23/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK H.B. 1992</u>	<p>Would establish the Dog and Cat Bill of Rights, requiring shelters, rescues, humane societies, and other organizations to post a notice stating: "Dogs and cats deserve to be free from exploitation, cruelty, neglect, and abuse. Dogs and cats deserve a life of comfort, free of free and anxiety. Dogs and cats deserve daily mental stimulation and appropriate exercise considering the age and energy level of the dog and cat. Dogs and cats deserve nutritious food, sanitary water, and shelter in an appropriate and safe environment. Dogs and cats deserve regular and appropriate veterinary care. Dogs and cats deserve to be properly identified through tags, microchips, or other humane means. Dogs and cats deserve to be spayed and neutered to prevent unwanted litters."</p>	Introduced 2/6/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 746/PA H.B. 1322</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires kennels to have an isolation plan for dogs coming from out-of-state or out of the country that is approved by a veterinarian; 2. Requires all dogs transported into the commonwealth to have a certificate of vaccination and an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection; 3. Requires all dogs transported into the state and kept in a non-boarding kennel to receive initial doses of Distemper, Adeno, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus (DAPP) certified by a veterinarian; 4. Creates new offense for harboring a dangerous dog and repeals former offense, new offense has an exception for 	Enacted 10/23/2023

		veterinarians and their staff when acting in the scope of their duties; and, 5. Creates an appeals process for an order of seizure and destruction of a dangerous dog.	
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 2063</u>	Requires a kennel, including those in veterinary clinics, to obtain informed consent before a dog or cat may be boarded and left unattended when employees are not present.	Enacted 6/2/2023
Texas	<u>TX S.B. 1962</u> <u>TX H.B. 4495</u>	Would permit County Commissioners to adopt ordinances requiring a dog to be microchipped, except for dogs with medical reasons or a dog temporarily located in the county.	Introduced 3/9/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1984</u>	Would have: 1. Amended the definition of "adequate water" as it relates to the care of companion animals to align with the federal Animal Welfare Act by specifying that water be provided in receptacles that are cleaned and sanitized before being used to provide water to a different dog or cat or a different social grouping of dogs or cats; and, 2. Clarified the intervals at which dogs and cats must be provided clean, fresh, potable water unless restricted by a veterinarian.	Failed Sine Die
West Virginia	<u>WV H.B. 2082</u>	Would have prohibited any ordinance that selectively applies to a particular breed or breed mix of dog.	Failed Sine Die

Continuing Education

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New Hampshire	<u>VET 400</u>	Requires: 1. Veterinarians to complete 30 hours of CE per renewal period a. A minimum of 24 hours must be medical courses and a maximum of 6 hours must be non-medical courses including practice management, professional development, and professional wellness. 2. Veterinarians to earn at least: a. 1 credit pertaining to medical records, law, or ethics; b. 1 credit pertaining to opioid use or prescribing of opioids; and, 3. At least 50% of CE earned through in-person or simultaneously interactive remote learning.	Effective 3/1/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 7608/NY A. 7903</u>	Would authorize veterinarians to provide free veterinary care services to individuals in shelters as self-instructional coursework to receive credit for up to three hours for their continuing education requirement.	Introduced 7/19/2023
North Carolina	<u>21 NCAC 66 .0206</u>	Revises continuing education requirements to allow: 1. Up to five hours to be obtained through independent self-study courses, prerecorded webinars, audio conferences, and non-interactive online presentations approved by approved continuing education credit providers; and, 2. Credit is to be earned through live, interactive attendance at courses approved by continuing education credit providers.	Effective 10/02/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-11</u>	Revises continuing education requirements by: 1. Requiring at least 12 hours for veterinarians and four hours for veterinary technicians be taken in-person per renewal period; and, 2. Clarifying there is no carryover for extra hours.	Effective 1/8/2024

Education			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	<u>AR S.B. 476</u>	Establishes the Rural Veterinary Student Scholarship Program.	Enacted 4/11/2023
California	<u>CA A.B. 1237</u>	Would establish the California Public Interest Veterinary Debt Relief Program to award funds to California-licensed veterinarians in relief of their educational loan debt who enter into a contract with the commission to provide veterinary services in eligible premises settings on a full-time basis.	Introduced 2/16/2023
Colorado	<u>CO SB23-044</u>	Updates the veterinary education loan repayment program by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the number of qualified applicants per year from four to six; 2. Eliminating the requirement that an applicant must have graduated from an accredited veterinary school in 2017 or later; 3. Increasing the total amount an applicant is eligible for over four years from \$70,000 to \$90,000; and, 4. Requiring the state treasurer to transfer \$540,000 from the general fund to the veterinary education loan repayment fund on September 1, 2023. 	Enacted 6/2/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5744</u>	Would have required the Board of Regents to establish a school of veterinary medicine.	Failed Sine Die
Maryland	<u>MD H.B.1133</u>	Would have established a Veterinary Practitioner Student Loan Forgiveness Program to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.	Failed Sine Die
Missouri	<u>MO S.B. 473</u>	Would repeal provisions stating that the University of Missouri shall be the state's only public research university and the exclusive grantor of research doctorates and first-professional degrees, including veterinary medicine.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Missouri	<u>MO S.B. 529 / MO H.B. 403</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit loan repayment for more than twelve veterinarians each year, instead of six; 2. Expand the sources of funding for the Large Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program to include any private grant, gift, donation, device, or bequest of money, funds, real or personal property, or other assets; 3. Permit recipients to receive up to \$30,000 for each academic year, instead of \$20,000 (provided that the cumulative total does not exceed \$120,000, instead of \$80,000). 	Introduced 1/23/2023
New Mexico	<u>NM S.B. 404/ NM H.B. 474</u>	Would authorize the Higher Education Department (HED) to pay back loans incurred by veterinarians and veterinary technicians who commit to practicing in shortage areas as designated by HED.	Introduced 2/10/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 425</u>	Would establish the Veterinarians Across Rural New York State Student Loan Repayment Fund for certain veterinarians who 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 1/4/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK S.B. 1005 / OK H.B. 2863</u>	Establishes the Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority with the intent to support the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine.	Enacted 5/25/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 2026</u>	Removes the requirement for a veterinarian to have graduated from a Texas-based veterinary school in order to participate in the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program.	Enacted 6/18/2023
Utah	<u>UT H.B. 184</u>	Establishes the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$2,500,000.	Enacted 3/14/2023

West Virginia	WV H.C.R. 84	Requests the state’s Joint Committee on Government and Finance to study state aid for students of veterinary medicine.	Failed Sine Die
---------------	------------------------------	--	--------------------

Emergency | First Responders

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1068	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires every ambulance service to authorize its EMCTs to provide, if trained, emergency treatment and transportation to a police dog injured in the line of duty, along with a police officer or other police personnel, who are medically trained, to a veterinary clinic or hospital equipped to provide emergency treatment; Stipulates that emergency treatment and transportation are only to be provided to a police dog if there is not a person requiring emergency medical treatment or transport at that time; Permits ambulance services to develop, in consultation with specified entities, policies, and procedures relating to Training EMCTs to provide police dogs with basic level emergency care, safe handling procedures for injured police dogs, identifying local veterinary facilities that will provide emergency treatment on short notice, decontamination of the patient compartment and medical equipment, and sterilization of an ambulance or other emergency vehicle; and, Asserts that EMCTs and other medical personnel who, in the performance of their duties and in good faith, render emergency medical services to an injured police dog are not personally liable as a result of rendering such services. 	Enacted 6/20/2023
Illinois	IL H.B. 2542	Would allow emergency medical service personnel to provide “preveterinary emergency care” to cats and dogs if they have received relevant training and are authorized to do so by their employer.	Introduced 2/15/2023
Iowa	IA S.F. 299/IA S.F. 539	Would permit emergency medical care providers to diagnose and treat severe injuries suffered by police service dogs while on duty.	Introduced 2/15/2023
New York	NY A. 3798/NY S. 1968/NY S. 4637	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize emergency medical care personnel to provide basic first aid to dogs and cats; and, Provide immunity from liability for emergency medical personnel, and licensed veterinarians who provide off-site instruction to such personnel, in providing basic first aid to a dog or cat. 	Introduced 2/08/2023
Wyoming	WY H.B. 233	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize emergency medical services providers to transport and treat injured police dogs; and, Provide immunity to emergency medical services providers when providing care to injured police dogs. 	Introduced 1/24/2023

Equine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	CO S.B. 23-038	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit the slaughter of equine for human consumption; and, Prohibit the possession, import, export, purchase, sale, receipt, or acceptance of an equine with the intent of killing or having it killed for the intent of any human consumption. 	Introduced 1/12/2023

New York	<u>NY S. 2163B/NY A. 5190A</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibits any person from slaughtering a horse where such person knows or has reason to know that such horse will be used for human consumption; and, 2. Prohibits any person from possessing, importing into or exporting from the state, selling, buying, giving away, holding or accepting any horse with the intent of killing, or having another kill, such horse, if such person knows or should have known that any part of such horse will be used for human consumption. 	Enacted 12/13/2023
South Carolina	<u>SC S.B. 0303/SC H.B. 3514</u>	Would establish a grant program to assist the growth and development of equine-related agriculture, business, and recreation.	Prefiled 12/07/2022

Euthanasia

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	<u>IN S.B. 0423</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permits an animal impound agency to euthanize an animal if a veterinarian determines that the animal is a serious threat to others or if it is in the best interest of the animal's welfare; and, 2. Provides civil liability for a veterinarian acting within the scope of this section. 	Enacted 4/20/2023
Kentucky	<u>201 KAR 16:552</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorize an animal control agency to apply for a registration certificate by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration to procure, manage, and dispose of controlled substances that are authorized by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) for use in animal sedation and euthanasia; 2. Require an animal control agency to notify the KBVE in writing within ten business days following the termination or severance of employment of a certified animal euthanasia specialist so that the certificate of the animal euthanasia specialist may be moved to inactive status; 3. Require animal control agencies to report to the KBVE and DEA within twenty-four (24) hours any suspected diversion of controlled substances or theft of controlled substances; 4. Require the designated on-site manager to ensure that a designated area is provided for animal euthanasia activities, the area is kept clean and orderly, and is maintained as a safe workspace, and that drugs ordered under DEA Registration held by any person or entity other than the certified animal control agency are kept in separate secure storage pursuant to state law; 5. Add to the list of who wildlife can be re-directed to a captive wildlife holder or transporter licensed with the state and KDFWR wildlife biologists or conservation officers; 6. Restrict animal control agencies to only purchasing sodium pentobarbital for euthanasia; 7. Restrict animal control agencies to a 30-day supply of scheduled drugs, or the smallest quantity available for purchase if that quantity is greater than a 30-day supply; 8. Outline safe storage requirements for animal control agencies; and, 9. Require animal control agencies to maintain records of the procurement, management, and disposal of sedation and euthanasia drugs. 	Proposed 11/13/2023

New Jersey	<u>NJ S. 3529/NJ A. 5005</u>	Would require the distribution of a policy on the use of sedation by a veterinarian before the euthanasia of an animal.	Failed Sine Die
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-23</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires shelters and dog wardens to perform euthanasia only with a substance in a manufactured dosage form, approved by the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board, in consultation with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy; and, Clarifies the laboratory portion of the euthanasia technician curriculum must be an in-person lab with oversight by a veterinarian or a registered veterinary technician. 	Effective 1/8/2024
Utah	<u>UT S.B. 108</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires an animal shelter to use sodium pentobarbital or a derivative as the exclusive method for the euthanasia of an animal; and, Requires an animal shelter that euthanizes animals to adopt a euthanasia training program for any person who conducts or assists with euthanasia to attend at least once every two years. 	Enacted 3/17/2023

Liability | Legal

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	<u>AZ S.B. 1383</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the definition of “malpractice” to include the failure of a licensed veterinarian to provide the owner or caretaker with all known medical information relevant to the animal's health, the failure of a licensed veterinarian to supervise an unlicensed person whom the licensed veterinarian authorizes them to perform an invasive procedure if the procedure results in serious injury or death of the animal, or making a false statement /altering any document or record concerning the medical treatment of an animal; and, Permit a person to take action in court against a licensed veterinarian and be entitled to the fair market value of the animal or reasonable replacement of the animal and the cost of medical expenses, including ongoing care. 	Introduced 1/30/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT S.B. 53</u>	Would have required veterinarians to report cases of suspected animal cruelty and provide civil and criminal immunity to those making such a report.	Failed Sine Die
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5851</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited a person convicted of animal cruelty from owning, controlling, adopting, fostering, or engaging in any occupation or volunteer role where animals, domesticated or otherwise, are kept; Required veterinarians to report instances of animal abuse to the appropriate authorities; and, Provided veterinarians who report in good faith with civil immunity. 	Failed Sine Die
Iowa	<u>IA S.F. 316/IA H.F. 472</u>	<p>Would provide administrative, civil, and criminal immunity to a veterinarian who, in good faith, cooperates with a peace officer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In a matter relating to the conduct of their client; To rescue a threatened animal, providing truthful evidence; or, To Participate in a dispositional proceeding or complying with a court order. 	Introduced 2/16/2023
Missouri	<u>MO H.B. 300</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Require veterinarians, animal control officers, and animal humane investigators to be mandated reporters in cases of abuse and neglect of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons. 	Introduced 12/1/2023

		2. Require veterinarians to report suspected companion animal abuse; and, 3. Provide immunity from civil and criminal liability.	
--	--	---	--

Licensure			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	<u>AK S.B. 83/</u> <u>AK H.B. 85</u>	Would change temporary “permit” to temporary “license” and remove the stipulation that a temporary license is valid only after applying for examination and until the results of required examinations are published.	Introduced 2/24/2023
Delaware	<u>DE 3300</u>	Adds the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (“PAVE”) as another method to meet the requirements for licensure.	Effective 9/11/2023
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 722/FL</u> <u>H.B. 719</u>	Allows out-of-state veterinarians to perform dog or cat sterilization services or routine preventative health services at the time of sterilization as an unpaid volunteer under the supervision of a state-licensed veterinarian.	Enacted 6/12/2023
Louisiana	<u>LA LAC</u> <u>46:LXXXV</u> <u>.301, 801,</u> <u>and 1201</u>	Would remove Letters of Recommendation as a requirement for licensure for DVM, RVT, or CAET applicants.	Published 6/20/2023
Maryland	<u>MD S.B.</u> <u>390/MD</u> <u>H.B. 325</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires the board to create an expedited process for a veterinarian licensed in another state to become licensed in Maryland; 2. Allows the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue and regulate a license to an animal control facility to allow the animal control facility to administer drugs to sedate and/or euthanize animals and rabies vaccines; 3. Allows a veterinary technician or other clinical staff who work in an animal shelter or an animal control facility to administer rabies vaccines if the animal is under the custody of the shelter or control facility, the veterinarian who signs the certificate has ensured they’re properly trained, and the administrator of the vaccine is identified on the certificate; and, 4. Requires the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to report to the state’s general assembly before December 1, 2023, on the status of establishing an expedited licensure process for out-of-state veterinarians. 	Enacted 5/8/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA</u> <u>S.B. 2451</u>	Would remove the good moral character licensure requirement and replace it with “lacks a criminal record or history of disqualifying convictions directly related to the duties or practices of a veterinarian.”	House Concurred 10/2/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B.</u> <u>348</u>	Would strike “of good moral character” and insert “lacks a criminal record of history of disqualifying convictions directly related to the duties or practices of a veterinarian” in the requirements for veterinary licensure.	Introduced 1/19/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B.</u> <u>3045</u>	Would prohibit the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine from denying the issuance of, revoking, or refusing to renew a license due to student loan payment default.	Introduced 1/17/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F.</u> <u>1773 /</u> <u>MN H.F.</u> <u>1817</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require any person who seeks to practice veterinary medicine while employed by the University of Minnesota and not a licensed veterinarian to apply to the veterinary board for an institutional license; and, 2. Define the scope of practice for institutional license holders as only as it relates to their regulator function at the University of Minnesota. 	Introduced 2/15/2023

Mississippi	<u>MS S.B. 2320</u>	Would have prohibited a licensing agency from discriminating or taking hostile action against views on the COVID-19 vaccine.	Failed 1/31/2023
Mississippi	<u>MS H.B. 176</u>	Would have required the Board of Veterinary Medicine, and others, to accept military education, training, and service as qualified credentials for a license or certificate.	Failed 1/31/2023
Mississippi	<u>MS H.B. 1366</u>	Would have prohibited licensing boards regulating healthcare practitioners, including veterinarians, from disciplining or threatening to discipline licensees for exercising their right to free speech.	Failed 1/31/2023
Nevada	<u>NV A.B. 503</u>	Requires certain licensing and occupational boards, including the Board of Veterinary Medicine, to submit a complete set of fingerprints of license applicants to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue a report on the criminal history of the applicant.	Enacted 6/15/2023
New Mexico	<u>NM S.B. 111</u>	Would have suspended provisional and initial license fees to practice occupations, including veterinary medicine, from July 1, 2023, to end June 30, 2026.	Vetoed 4/10/2023
New Mexico	<u>NM H.B. 384</u>	Provides for expedited licensure of out-of-state veterinarians who are in good standing in their jurisdiction and have practiced veterinary medicine for at least five years.	Enacted 4/5/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 5964</u>	Would remove U.S. citizenship/permanent residence requirement for licensure in a variety of professions, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians.	Introduced 3/23/23
New York	<u>NY A. 3489</u>	Would authorize the denial of renewal of a professional license, including veterinary licenses, where a licensee has outstanding tax debt which they have failed to settle.	Introduced 2/2/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-04</u>	Removes the “good moral character” requirement for a veterinarian seeking licensure.	Final File 12/8/2023 Effective 1/8/2024
Oregon	<u>OR OAR 875-010-0026</u>	Would allow a veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine in Oregon for up to 30 days without an Oregon license or with an inactive license to be in accordance with current statute.	Published 4/18/2023
Wisconsin	<u>WI A.B. 332</u>	Would allow for reciprocal credentials, including a license to practice veterinary medicine, for individuals with a license, certification, or permit issued by another state.	Introduced 6/22/2023

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	<u>CO H.B. 23-1264</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removes the requirement for livestock to be inspected, tested, and quarantined under rules by the Commissioner of Agriculture; 2. Gives the Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to condemn and destroy livestock but only when they, the state veterinarian, and the governor agree on the destruction; and, 3. Grants the Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to investigate all buildings, yards, pens, pastures, and other areas where any animals are kept, handled, or transported. 	Enacted 5/18/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5398</u>	Would have prohibited the confinement of egg-laying hens.	Failed Sine Die
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 6726</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allows the Commissioner of Agriculture to adopt regulations to prevent the spread of contagious and infectious diseases among livestock, including those that may be transmissible to humans directly or through animal products; 	Enacted 6/28/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Restricts official testing for tuberculosis in livestock to veterinarians and USDA veterinarians, but allows surveillance tests to be performed by a trained department employee under the supervision of the State Veterinarian; 3. Requires livestock infected with an infectious or contagious disease, including, but not limited to, tuberculosis, anthrax, or foot and mouth disease to be euthanized; 4. Only allows samples for brucellosis tests to be drawn by the State Veterinarian, veterinarians, and trained employees of the Department of Agriculture, veterinarians employed by the federal government, and accredited veterinarians licensed to practice in this state; 5. Requires all livestock and equines entering the state for competition or exhibition to have an exhibition permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection; 6. Requires all breeding swine to be tested for brucellosis and pseudorabies by a veterinarian, USDA veterinarian, or by a trained department employee under the supervision of the State Veterinarian; 7. Requires all livestock brought into this state to be accompanied by a livestock importation permit; and, 8. Require any laboratory or veterinarian that conducts testing of livestock or poultry in this state shall notify the State Veterinarian, on forms or in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, of any positive test results for any notifiable or reportable disease. 	
Hawaii	<u>HI H.B. 1293</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require farm owners or operators to confine egg-laying hens in cage-free housing; 2. Prohibit a business owner or operator from selling shell eggs or egg products that are produced by egg-laying hens that were confined; and, 3. Require the Department of Agriculture to certify a business owner or operator who sells shell eggs or egg products within the State. 	Introduced 1/25/2023
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 1891/IL H.B. 3567</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require feed distributors to report to the Department of Agriculture all Veterinary Feed Directives associated with medicated feed distributed to producers along with associated feed distribution records; and, 2. Have the Department of Agriculture set a target of reducing the use of medically important antibiotics in food processing by 50%. 	Introduced 2/9/2023
Iowa	<u>IA S.F. 473</u>	Establishes the Livestock Health Advisory Council to support the research of livestock diseases conducted by the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.	Enacted 4/28/2023
Iowa	<u>IA H.F. 338</u>	Would require raw milk producers to hire a veterinarian once a year to examine the dairy animals, including blood testing for common diseases.	Introduced 2/20/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 590</u>	Would prohibit any person from transporting, holding, buying, selling, giving, receiving, or marketing a non-ambulatory animal (a domestic sheep, cattle, or swine raised for subsistence that is unable to stand or walk on its own) unless such animal is first humanely euthanized.	Introduced 1/5/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 2957/NY A. 107</u>	Would require a farm owner or operator that produces shell eggs or liquid eggs for human consumption to confine egg-laying hens in a cage-free housing system.	Introduced 1/26/2023

New York	<u>NY S. 4311/NY A. 959</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit the operation of establishments where animals and/or fowls are slaughtered or butchered for food; and, 2. Create a task force on "public health risks and animal welfare concerns of slaughterhouses," one member of which would be required to be a licensed veterinarian.	Introduced 2/7/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 7611/NY A. 341</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit any person tethering or confining any covered animal (any calf raised for veal, breeding pig, or egg-laying hen who is kept on a farm), on a farm for all or the majority of the day, in a manner that prevents such animal from lying down, standing up and fully extending its limbs and turning around freely; and, 2. Create exemptions for transportation, exhibition, slaughtering, scientific or agricultural research, examination, testing, individual treatment or operation for veterinary purposes, and pigs during the seven days before their expected date of giving birth.	Introduced 7/24/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 473</u>	Would prohibit any person from tethering or confining any pig during pregnancy or calf raised for veal for all or the majority of any day in a manner that prevents such animal from lying down, standing up and fully extending its limbs, and turning around freely.	Introduced 1/9/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 3239</u>	Would prohibit the use of non-therapeutic anti-microbial agents in any animals raised for food or to create food products.	Introduced 2/23/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 7841</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit farm owners and operators from confining covered animals (any calf raised for veal, breeding pig, or egg-laying hen who is kept on a farm) in a way that: a. Prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending the animal's limbs, or turning around freely; b. After 12/31/2024, confining a calf raised for veal with less than forty-three square feet of usable floor space per calf; c. After 12/31/2024, confining a breeding pig with less than twenty-four square feet of usable floor space per pig; d. After 12/31/2024, confining an egg-laying hen with less than the amount of usable floor space per hen; 2. Prohibit businesses from engaging in the sale of egg products or meat of wrongfully confined covered animals; and, 3. Exempts medical research and veterinary treatment from the confinement prohibition.	Introduced 7/7/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK S.B.66</u>	Would establish the Oklahoma Rural Investment for Sow Farms Program with an independent committee of reviewers comprised of veterinarians, farmers, and experienced animal wellbeing experts appointed by the Governor to analyze and recommend projects for approval.	Introduced 2/6/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK H.B.2438</u>	Establishes the Oklahoma Pregnant Pigs Pilot Program to encourage investment and jobs in the swine industry related to responsible animal-care values towards animal husbandry.	Introduced 2/6/2023
Oregon	<u>OR S.B. 57</u>	Removes the prohibition against sale, offer for sale, maintenance, or control of female cattle of beef breeds that have not been vaccinated against brucellosis.	Enacted 6/6/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC H.B. 259</u>	1. Creates the Large Animal Healthcare Enhancement Fund to make grants to encourage veterinary students to enter and	Enacted 10/03/2023

		<p>stay in large animal veterinarian practice and to support large animal veterinarian practices to enable them to better serve their designated counties;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creates the Large Animal Healthcare Enhancement Advisory Committee, of which two members must be practicing large animal veterinarians; Sets grant eligibility for large animal veterinarians who practice or plan to practice in one or more designated counties at up to \$25,000 per fiscal year; and, Allows grant funds to be used for vet school loan repayment and large animal veterinary equipment. 	
North Carolina	<u>NC H.B. 659</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Require the Board of Agriculture, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to establish humane standards for cows, poultry, and swine including reducing tethering with an exemption for veterinary care; Require a farm owner or operator to ensure that all on-farm killing of cows or swine be performed in a humane manner using methods explicitly deemed "acceptable" by the American Veterinary Medical Association; and, Prohibit the strangulation of cows and swine as a form of euthanasia. 	Introduced 4/17/2023
West Virginia	<u>WV H.R. 16</u>	Would have condemned the new FDA regulations and asked those in Congress and the federal government to rescind GFI No. 263 and require that the necessary animal drugs and medications remain easily accessible.	Failed Sine Die
Wyoming	<u>WY S.F. 0029</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the requirement to distinctly brand a livestock animal following a positive brucellosis test to be discretionary; Updates the provisions for brucellosis testing of cattle; and, Modifies the documentation requirements to receive compensation for brucellosis testing. 	Enacted 2/24/2023
Wyoming	<u>WY H.B. 0180</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the Wyoming Livestock Board to establish a communication protocol to provide information related to brucellosis testing; and, Requires the state veterinarian to provide information to livestock owners regarding brucellosis testing. 	Enacted 2/27/2023
Wyoming	<u>WY 8169</u>	Would require <i>Brucella ovis</i> testing prior to releasing rams for common grazing with other flocks.	Closed for Comment 3/16/2023

Non-Economic Damages | Malpractice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Massachusetts	<u>MA S.B. 1126</u>	Would establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a cat or dog and allow for non-economic damages based on the loss of companionship provided by the animal.	Introduced 1/13/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 4084</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; Provide for non-economic damages; and, Create an exemption for veterinarians who may cause injury or death during the lawful treatment of a companion animal. 	Introduced 2/2/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 1372</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; and, Allow the court to consider the bond between owner and animal when deciding non-economic damages. 	Introduced 1/17/2023

New York	<u>NY A. 3976</u>	Would: 1. Establish a tort cause of action for the wrongful injury or death of a companion animal; 2. Provide for non-economic damages; and, 3. Create a three-year statute of limitations for such claims.	Introduced 2/8/2023
-----------------	-------------------	--	------------------------

Pet Insurance

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Delaware	<u>DE H.B. 156</u>	Establishes a comprehensive framework for the regulation of pet insurance in the state.	Enacted 8/31/2023
Louisiana	<u>LA H.B. 579</u>	1. Establishes guidelines for pet insurance providers; and, 2. Prohibits pet insurance providers from marketing wellness programs as pet insurance, nor make it a requirement for receiving insurance.	Enacted 6/6/2023
Maine	<u>ME L.D. 1266</u>	Allows a person licensed in property, accident and health or sickness, or personal lines of authority to sell, solicit, and negotiate pet insurance.	Enacted 6/18/2023
Mississippi	<u>MS S.B. 2228</u>	Establishes a legal framework for the sale, issuance, and renewal of pet insurance policies.	Enacted 3/10/2023
Nebraska	<u>NE L.B. 296</u>	Establishes a legal framework for the sale of pet insurance.	Enacted 4/21/2023
New Hampshire	<u>NH H.B. 249</u>	Establishes regulatory standards for the sale of pet insurance.	Enacted 7/28/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 1715/NY A. 1599</u>	Would prohibit animal insurance policies from limiting or excluding pre-existing conditions.	Introduced 1/17/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 258</u>	Would establish requirements for the issuance of pet insurance policies covering veterinary expenses.	Introduced 1/4/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 8276</u>	Would create a framework for pet insurance in the state.	Introduced 11/27/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 660</u>	Creates a framework for pet insurance in the Commonwealth.	Introduced 3/21/2023
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 697/RI H.B. 5832</u>	Would have created a regulatory framework for pet insurance.	Failed Sine Die
Washington	<u>WA S.B. 5319/WA H.B. 1101/WA H.B. 1208</u>	Establishes a framework to provide pet insurance.	Enacted 4/6/2023

Pharmaceuticals | Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	<u>AK S.B. 51/ AK H.B. 56</u>	Exempts veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database.	Enacted 10/16/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1662</u>	1. Exempts the sale of veterinary drugs and medicine from the licensure requirements for a pharmacist and a pharmacy if the sale is based on a prescription of a licensed veterinarian; and, 2. Declares an emergency related to the FDA's June 2023 guidance on over-the-counter (OTC) antibiotics used in the production of livestock and feed.	Enacted 4/7/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR 007.01.23-002</u>	Permits a practitioner, including a veterinarian, to request an annual reporting exemption waiver from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program if controlled substances are not dispensed.	Finalized 12/28/2023

Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 6380</u>	Would require the Board of Veterinary Medicine to adopt regulations to limit, monitor, and track the dispensing and administration of opioid drugs by veterinarians for pets.	Introduced 1/20/2023
Delaware	<u>DE Emergency Rule Xylazine</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Makes illicit xylazine a Schedule III substance; and, 2. Defines “licit xylazine” as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any administration to nonhuman species a drug containing xylazine that has been approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 512 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360b); or that is permissible under section 512(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360b(a)(4)); b. The manufacturing, importation, or use of xylazine as an active pharmaceutical ingredient for manufacturing an animal drug approved under section 512 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360b) or issued an investigation use exemption under subsection (j) of such section 512; c. The manufacturing, importation, or use of a xylazine bulk chemical for pharmaceutical compounding by licensed pharmacists or veterinarians; and, d. Another use approved or permissible under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.). 	<p>Ordered 6/02/2023</p> <p>Effective 120 days from the date of execution</p>
Delaware	<u>DE Emergency Rule Placing Illicit Xylazine in Schedule III</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adds illicit use of xylazine to the state’s controlled substances list as a Schedule III; 2. Defines illicit use as any use in the human species or any use that is not licit; and, 3. Defines licit use as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any administration to nonhuman species a drug containing xylazine that has been approved by federal law; b. The manufacturing, importation, or use of xylazine as an active pharmaceutical ingredient for manufacturing an animal drug approved by federal law; c. The manufacturing, importation, or use of a xylazine bulk chemical for pharmaceutical compounding by licensed pharmacists or veterinarians; and, d. Other uses approved or permissible under federal law. 	<p>Proposed 11/1/2023</p> <p>Effective 11/11/2023</p> <p>Expired 11/29/2023</p>
Delaware	<u>DE S.B. 189</u>	Adds xylazine and its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers to Schedule III of the Delaware Uniform Controlled Substances Act.	Enacted 8/17/2023
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 2089</u>	Would add xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and provide for penalties for the knowing manufacture or delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver, Xylazine.	Introduced 2/9/2023
Illinois	<u>IL H.B. 1358</u>	Exempts veterinarians from the requirement that all controlled substance prescriptions must be transmitted electronically to retail pharmacies for two years following the effective date of this legislation.	Enacted 11/17/2023
Illinois	<u>IL H.B. 3873</u>	Would schedule xylazine as a Schedule II controlled substance.	Introduced 2/17/2023
Louisiana	<u>LA H.B. 106</u>	Would add xylazine to Schedule II of the Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substances Law.	Introduced 3/14/2023

Louisiana	<u>LA H.B. 645</u>	Establishes the crime of unlawful production, manufacturing, distribution, or possession of xylazine.	Enacted 6/8/2023
Maryland	<u>MD H.B. 1227</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Included veterinarians in the definition of "dispenser" for purposes of the PDMP when dispensing controlled substances for animals; and, 2. Provided that the PDMP is not required to disclose prescription drug monitoring data to veterinarians. 	Failed Sine Die
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 1452/MA H.B. 2149</u>	Would permit a veterinarian, or other certain medical professionals, or a veterinary student, or other students in certain medical programs, under the supervision of a veterinarian to administer any controlled substance in schedule II, III, IV, V, or VI unless otherwise prohibited by other general or special law.	Introduced 1/17/2023
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4913</u>	Would make xylazine a Schedule II controlled substance.	Introduced 7/18/2023
Montana	<u>MT S.B. 561/MT L.C. 2269</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires a permit to operate a veterinary retail facility; 2. Establishes the registration and educational requirements of veterinary dispensing technicians; 3. Permits only veterinary prescription drugs to be dispensed by a veterinary retail facility for livestock only; and, 4. Prohibits an employee of a veterinary retail facility from dispensing controlled substances, compounding drugs for dispensing, repackaging veterinary prescription drugs for dispensing, or dispensing medication for extralabel use. 	Enacted 5/22/2023
New Jersey	<u>NJ S. 3902/NJ A. 5448</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classified xylazine as a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine; and, 2. Directed the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety to promulgate rules and regulations to implement this bill. 	Failed Sine Die
New Jersey	<u>NJ A. 5488</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classified xylazine as a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance except when acquired, prescribed, administered, or dispensed by a veterinarian in the course of the professional practice of veterinary medicine; 2. Made anyone who manufactures, distributes, or dispenses xylazine, other than a veterinarian in the ordinary course of professional veterinary practice, who violates the state's manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing law strictly liable for the death of someone resulting from the drug; 3. Required a veterinarian to access the state's prescription drug monitoring program any time they issue a prescription for xylazine; and, Direct the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety to promulgate rules and regulations to implement this bill.	Failed Sine Die
New York	<u>NY S. 2314</u>	Would permit the compounding, dispensing, and sale of pharmaceuticals to veterinarians.	Introduced 1/19/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 4870/NY A. 770</u>	Would require practitioners to counsel patients prior to issuing a prescription for a Schedule II opioid.	Introduced 1/11/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 5439A/NY A. 5914A</u>	Would designate xylazine as a Schedule III depressant controlled substance.	Introduced 3/6/2023

New York	<u>NY S. 7459/NY A. 6996</u>	Amends the requirement that dispensing information be provided by veterinarians to: 1. Apply only to an initial prescription; 2. Apply only to cats, dogs, and rabbits for use outside the office instead of animals in or out of the office; and, 3. Allow the information to be provided in writing or orally, as long as the method is noted in the patient's record.	Enacted 6/30/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 7763/NY A. 8395</u>	Would make xylazine a Schedule I controlled substance with an exception for its use in veterinary practice for purposes of injection to cattle and nonhuman species when such purposes are approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration	Introduced 11/17/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 8130</u>	Would classify xylazine as a Schedule I controlled substance and criminalize the sale and possession of xylazine or preparations, compounds, mixtures, or substances containing xylazine.	Introduced 10/13/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 1675</u>	Would: 1. Establish the antibiotics education fund; and, 2. Include methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and other antibiotic-resistant infections in the definition of airborne infectious disease.	Introduced 1/17/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC H.B. 190</u>	Adds gabapentin to the controlled substance reporting system.	Enacted 6/29/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4729:9-1- 03</u>	Designates xylazine a Schedule III controlled substance, without a veterinary use exemption.	Effective 9/28/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK S.B. 665</u>	Requires every person who proposes or actively manufactures, distributes, dispenses, prescribes, administers, or uses for scientific purposes any controlled dangerous substance, within or into this state, to obtain a registration issued by the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control.	Enacted 4/26/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK S.B. 668</u>	Would have included xylazine as a Schedule IV controlled substance, but was amended on February 27, 2023, to exclude the drug entirely.	Enacted 4/26/2023
Oregon	<u>OR S.B. 559</u>	Would require veterinarians to participate in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and add a practicing veterinarian to the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Commission.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Oregon	<u>OR OAR 855-006- 0005, etc.</u>	Would include xylazine as a Schedule III drug.	Proposed 4/19/2023
Oregon	<u>OR OAR 855-080- 0021</u>	Would have included xylazine as a Schedule I drug.	Proposed 6/16/2023 Board of Pharmacy Voted Not to Adopt 8/9/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 959</u>	Would allow for the scheduling of controlled substances in Pennsylvania to automatically follow the federal government's Drug Enforcement Administration's classification.	Introduced 10/16/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 1661</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit acquiring, obtaining, possessing, administering, dispensing, delivering, gifting, prescribing, or manufacturing of xylazine except in circumstances of licit use. The definition of "licit use" includes veterinary use; and,	Introduced 9/7/2023

		2. Require veterinarians to comply with the regulations of the Pennsylvania Board of Pharmacy for the safe storage of xylazine.	
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 1690</u>	Would allow the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to: 1. Enter into partnerships with health care providers, including physicians and veterinarians, to educate the public on the dangers of human use of xylazine; and, 2. Create informational materials, including on the legitimate use of xylazine in veterinary medicine.	Introduced 9/21/2023
Rhode Island	<u>216-RICR-40-05-14</u>	Would outline requirements for donation and re-dispensing of veterinary medications for use by nonprofit, state, and local facilities as well as: 1. Create a code of professional conduct for veterinarians; 2. Remove the good moral character requirement for license applicants and replace it with conduct in accordance with the code of professional conduct for veterinarians; 3. Allow contact hours, related to continuing education, to be earned via in-person programs or live online streamed programs which allow for the audience to participate and ask questions to the presenter; and, 4. Change the term “radiographs” in rules for recordkeeping to “imaging studies regardless of format”.	Proposed 11/15/2023 Closed for Comment 12/15/2023
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 738/RI H.B. 5922</u>	Designates xylazine HCL as a Schedule V controlled substance.	Enacted 6/26/2023
South Carolina	<u>Placement of Xylazine in Schedule III for Controlled Substance §*</u> *Notice can be found on p. 21	Would designate xylazine as a Schedule III controlled substance with no veterinary use exemption.	Deferred Action 10/25/2023
Tennessee	<u>TN S.B. 1398/TN H.B. 1242</u> As Amended by SA 490	Criminalizes possessing, manufacturing, delivering, or selling xylazine, but exempts legitimate veterinary practice and possession by non-veterinarians with valid prescriptions from a licensed veterinarian	Enacted 5/24/2024
West Virginia	<u>WV S.B. 546</u>	Designates xylazine as a Schedule IV controlled substance.	Enacted 3/29/2023

Research| Research Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 1882</u>	Prohibits testing facilities from conducting a canine or feline toxicological experiment, with exceptions for medical research, some biologic testing, and some pesticide research.	Enacted 6/30/2023
Indiana	<u>IN S.B. 0258/IN H.B. 1146</u>	Would have: 1. Permitted the Indiana State Board of Animal Health to bring a civil action against an animal testing facility or breeder that violates board regulations; and,	Failed Sine Die

		2. Provided immunity from civil liability to an animal testing facility or breeder for harm caused by or a defect suffered by a cat or dog released under this chapter.	
Maryland	<u>MD S.B. 495</u>	Would have: 1. Required each research facility and testing facility in the State to be licensed by the Department of Agriculture to use animals in research, education, or testing; 2. Established requirements for the use and treatment of dogs or cats by a research facility or a testing facility; and, 3. Prohibited a research facility and a testing facility from using certain dogs and cats for research or testing purposes and performing certain procedures on dogs or cats.	Failed Sine Die
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 580</u>	Would: 1. Require a research institution or product testing facility to assess the health of a cat or dog to determine suitability for adoption, unless euthanasia is required after the study, as determined by the attending veterinarian; 2. Require a research institution or product testing facility to enter a collaborative agreement with an animal rescue organization to carry out these duties; and, 3. Permit a research institution or product testing facility to not offer a car or dog to an animal rescue organization if the animal manifests symptoms of a disease or injury or if an employee of such a facility becomes the permanent owner.	Introduced 1/12/2023
Michigan	<u>MI S.B. 0149</u>	1. Defines "Laboratory animal" as a dog or cat that is used or intended to be used for laboratory research at a research facility; 2. Requires research facilities, before euthanating an animal, offer animal subjects to its employees or an in-state animal shelter for adoption, unless a veterinarian believes the animal needs to be euthanized for health and safety; and, 3. Creates civil immunity for research facilities and animal shelters resulting from the transfer of the animal.	Enacted 12/29/2023
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4849</u>	Would: 1. Prohibit the use of a dog or cat for experimental purposes causes pain or distress to the dog or cat if: a. The experimental purpose would, if conducted, be reportable to the United States Department of Agriculture under 8 CFR 2.36(b)(6) or (7). b. It would cause death, injury, fear, or trauma; c. It involves an invasive procedure; and, 2. Not prohibit the use of a dog or cat for experimental purposes if an owner of a dog or cat consents for veterinary training or veterinary clinical research involving the treatment of an existing disease or ailment or it is the performance of a spay or neuter by a veterinarian or veterinary student or other training or medical procedures commonly performed by a veterinarian or veterinary student for the treatment of a dog or cat.	Introduced 6/27/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 3505A</u>	Would: 1. Require research facilities to establish a policy for private placement process for the adoption of dogs and cats; and, 2. Require a research facility to submit an annual report with the number of cats and dogs owned by the facility, the number of cats and dogs used for testing or research, and the total number of cats.	Introduced 2/3/2023

Oregon	<u>OR H.B. 2904</u>	Requires an institution or research facility that performs research, testing, or studies involving nonhuman primates to annually report to the State Veterinarian.	Enacted 7/13/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 658</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit recipients of Commonwealth funds from using those funds to support medically unnecessary research on animal subjects that are classified under pain and distress categories "D" or "E" by the USDA; 2. Prohibit recipients of Commonwealth funds from using those funds to devocalize an animal, procure a devocalized animal, or perform research on a devocalized animal; 3. Require animal testing facilities that receive commonwealth funds to place animals no longer needed for research up for adoption as long as doing so does not pose a risk to public health; 4. Would create immunity from liability for harm caused by or a defect suffered by an animal subject placed, in good faith, for adoption; 5. Require facilities to keep an offer for release open for at least two weeks before euthanizing an animal; 6. Require entities who bid for a commonwealth project whose bids involve animal research to disclose information relating to how those funds are spent on the project; and, 7. Require the State Treasurer to annually submit a report to the legislature about animal research in the Commonwealth. 	Introduced 5/11/23
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 701/PA H.B. 1318</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the sale of cats and dogs by dealers or kennels who have received specific citations from the USDA; 2. Require animal research facilities to release animals they are no longer using for testing to a releasing agency for adoption as long as the animal does not pose a risk to public health; 3. Require any person, kennel, or animal testing facility to keep an animal available for adoption for at least 21 days before euthanizing the animal; 4. Require any person, kennel, or animal testing facility to submit a report annually to the State about adoption efforts; 5. Create a recordkeeping requirement for kennels and people engaged in raising dogs and cats for research purposes; and, 6. Create whistleblower protections for employees of any person, dealer, kennel, animal testing facility, private entity, State agency, or institution of higher education who, in good faith, reports violations of this act. 	Introduced 5/15/23
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 4197</u>	Would require a research facility to offer their research animals for adoption through an animal rehoming organization or by an individual through an arrangement between the facility and the individual unless the animal is not suitable for adoption.	Introduced 3/8/2023
Virginia	<u>VA S.B. 1271/VA H.B. 2042</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires state and private facilities using animal test methods to annually submit a report to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regarding the use of animals in biomedical or behavioral research for the preceding year; and, 2. Establishes whistle-blower protections for any violations of any animal care requirements and the Animal Welfare Whistle Blower Reward Fund to provide monetary rewards to persons who have disclosed any such violations. 	Enacted 3/26/2023

Virginia	VA H.B. 2000	Would have permitted public institutions of higher education to purchase or acquire dogs and cats for use in research, experimentation, or testing from any person or company only if the State Veterinarian or their assistant has inspected such person or company and has determined that no violations of state law regarding the care, control, or protection of or property rights in animals have occurred.	Failed Sine Die
Virginia	VA H.B. 2348	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires animal testing facilities to register annually with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and, Requires animal testing facilities to report citations received for violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. 	Enacted 3/26/2023

Scope of Practice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1401	Permits an acupuncturist to become certified to treat animals if the acupuncturist is nationally certified for acupuncture and oriental medicine to treat animals and if the animal has been under the care of and referred by a licensed veterinarian for the condition being treated by the acupuncturist.	Enacted 6/5/2023
Arizona	AZ H.B. 2335	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes; Define a “therapeutic purpose” as addressing an existing or reoccurring infection, disease, injury, or abnormality that jeopardizes a cat’s health as determined by a licensed veterinarian; and, Require a licensed veterinarian to request a hearing with the veterinary board and gain its written approval to perform the declaw of a cat. 	Introduced 1/12/2023
Washington, D.C.	DC B24-0560	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits non-therapeutic declawing of cats; Modifies 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; and, Authorizes animal control officers’ emergency vehicles to use emergency lights and sirens when responding to life-threatening animal-related emergencies. 	Enacted 5/05/2023
Florida	FL S.B. 932	Would have prohibited non-therapeutic cat declawing.	Failed Sine Die
Illinois	IL H.B. 1533	Would prohibit a person from performing surgical claw removal, declawing, or a tendonectomy on any cat or otherwise altering a cat’s toes, claws, or paws to prevent or impair the normal function of the cat’s toes, claws, or paws, except for a therapeutic purpose.	Introduced 1/27/2023
Iowa	IA S.F. 541 IA H.F. 640 IA H.F. 670	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize certain individuals to provide authorized veterinary medical services under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; Change the definition of “practice of veterinary medicine” to include veterinary acupuncture, acupressure, manipulative therapy based on techniques of osteopathy and chiropractic medicine, or some other similar therapies specified by the Board of Veterinary Medicine; Define “veterinary auxiliary personnel” as a veterinary assistant, registered veterinary technician, veterinary student, veterinary technician student, or graduate of a 	Enacted 6/1/2023

		<p>foreign college of veterinary medicine who does not have a veterinary license or temporary permit;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Provide the level of supervision required to delegate tasks to veterinary auxiliary personnel; 5. Establish the duties of a supervising veterinarian, registered veterinarian technician, registered veterinarian technician student, and a graduate of a foreign veterinary college; and, 6. Require the Board of Veterinary Medicine to issue certificates of registration to qualified veterinarian technicians and provide the procedures for certification. 	
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 190</u>	Would prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes.	Introduced 1/20/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 257</u>	Would remove “floating of teeth or removal of deciduous caps or erupted, non-displaced wolf teeth in horses by a licensed equine dental practitioner” from the definition of “practicing veterinary medicine.” This would not include dental procedures on canines and felines or allow controlled substances to be used except by and on the order of a licensed veterinarian, as provided by state and federal law.	Introduced 1/19/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 258</u>	Would establish the licensure of equine dentist, defining an “Equine Dental Practitioner” as a veterinarian or someone who is certified by the International Association of Equine Dentistry.	Introduced 1/19/2023
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4674</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit performance of an onychectomy, a partial or complete phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure, or any other surgical procedure that prevents normal functioning of the claws, toes, or paws, on a cat unless for a therapeutic purpose; and, 2. Define “therapeutic purpose” as a physical medical condition of a cat, including, but not limited to, an existing or recurring illness, infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in the claw of a cat that compromises the cat’s health and does not include a cosmetic or aesthetic reason or a reason of convenience in keeping or handling a cat. 	Introduced 5/25/2023
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4883</u>	Would prohibit the performance of an onychectomy, a partial or complete phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure, or any other surgical procedure that prevents normal functioning of the claws, toes, or paws, on a cat, unless the procedure is necessary to address a therapeutic purpose.	Introduced 6/28/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F. 556 / MN S.F. 2909 / MN H.F. 758</u>	Prohibits landlords from encouraging or requiring tenants to declaw or devocalize an animal.	Enacted 5/19/2023
Missouri	<u>MO S.B. 115 / MO H.B. 801</u>	Would prohibit political subdivisions from enacting, maintaining, or enforcing any order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or similar measure that prohibits, restricts, limits, regulates, controls, directs, or interferes with the practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 1/17/2023
Missouri	<u>MO S.B. 471 / MO H.B. 88</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define an animal chiropractic practitioner as someone who is a licensed veterinarian or licensed by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners and who is certified by a veterinary chiropractic organization; and, 2. Allow an animal chiropractic practitioner to engage in animal chiropractic without being considered practicing as a veterinarian. 	Introduced 1/9/2023
Nevada	<u>NV S.B. 229</u>	Would exempt equine dentistry from the practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 3/8/2023

New Hampshire	<u>VET 900</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarifies veterinary dentistry is a discipline of veterinary medicine and surgery; 2. Lists types of procedures that qualify as surgical procedures of the head or oral cavity: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The administration of prescription of sedatives, tranquilizers, analgesics, or anesthetics; b. Invasive procedures of the tissues of the oral cavity such as removal of sharp enamel points, treatment of malocclusions of premolars, molars, canine teeth, and incisors, odontoplasty, extraction of first premolars and deciduous premolars and incisors, extraction of damaged or diseased teeth, treatment of diseased teeth via restorations or endodontic procedures, and periodontal and orthodontic treatments; and, c. Interpretation of dental radiography; 3. Outlines anesthesia and sedation standards for veterinary dental care; and, 4. Requires medical records for veterinary dental procedures to include a complete description of all dental, oral, or other diseases present during the examination, a complete description of all abnormal findings, and documentation of communication with the client regarding any dental disease or abnormal dental findings. 	Effective 8/13/2023
New Hampshire	<u>NH H.B. 231</u>	Would have banned declawing in cats except when necessary to address the physical medical condition of the cat.	Failed Sine Die
New Hampshire	<u>NH H.B. 258</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Established a certification for animal chiropractors; 2. Require an animal chiropractor to receive a referral from a licensed veterinarian in order to treat an animal; and, 3. Permitted the Board of Veterinarians to establish further requirements for certification and continuing education. 	Failed Sine Die
New York	<u>NY S. 142</u>	Would prohibit the surgical devocalization of a cat or dog unless performed by a licensed veterinarian and only to treat or relieve a physical illness, disease, injury, or congenital abnormality causing the animal physical pain or to preserve the life of the animal.	Introduced 1/04/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 1844</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the clipping or cutting of a dog's ears unless an anesthetic is given and is performed by a licensed veterinarian; 2. Prohibit the cutting of the bone, tissues, muscles, or tendons of a horse's tail unless proven by a licensed veterinarian that it was done in a state where doing so is permitted; and, 3. Update statutes related to animal cruelty. 	Introduced 1/23/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 3586</u>	Would exclude the use of equine pulsed electromagnetic field therapy from the practice of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 2/3/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 222</u>	Would criminalize anyone who is not a licensed veterinarian who crops, trims, or cuts off the whole or part of an ear or ears of an animal.	Introduced 3/8/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 508</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit the performance of an onychectomy, a declawing, partial digital amputation, phalangectomy, or tendonectomy procedure by any means unless the procedure is deemed necessary for a therapeutic purpose by a veterinarian; 2. Create an exemption for the trimming of a nonviable claw husk and the placing a nonpermanent nail cap on a cat; and, 	Introduced 3/17/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Create a requirement for a veterinarian that performs a prohibited procedure to file a report with the jurisdiction's animal control agency within ten business days; 4. Require a report to include a reason for the procedure, laboratory pathology report, the cat's information (microchip number, age, markings, gender, photo of face, and current address and phone number of owner); and, 5. Require a copy of the report to be provided to the owner of the cat. 	
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 403/RI H.B. 6508</u>	Would prohibit anyone from performing a non-therapeutic surgical claw removal, declawing, or tendonectomy on any cat or otherwise altering a cat's toes, claws, or paws to prevent or impair the normal functioning of the cat's toes, claws, or paws. This would not include the trimming of nonviable claw husk or placing nonpermanent nail caps.	Introduced 2/16/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 1348</u>	Would prohibit a municipality from regulating the practice of veterinary medicine or prohibiting a veterinarian from performing a procedure on an animal.	Introduced 1/13/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 3397</u>	Would permit only a veterinarian or a chiropractor, certified by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or acting under the supervision of a veterinarian, to perform chiropractic treatment and musculoskeletal manipulation on an animal.	Introduced 3/3/2023
Utah	<u>UT H.B. 187</u>	Exempts an individual who is testing bovine for pregnancy from the requirement to be licensed under the Veterinary Practice Act.	Enacted 3/13/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1382</u>	Would have prohibited the declawing of cats except for a therapeutic purpose.	Failed Sine Die 3/31/2023
West Virginia	<u>WV Certified Pesticide Applicator Rules</u>	Would exempt veterinarians applying restricted-use pesticides to patients during the ordinary practice of their profession from pesticide applicator certification testing, competency, and application requirements.	Proposed 6/28/2023

Small Business

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	<u>FL Rule 61G18-18.001</u>	<p>Requires the executor, administrator, personal representative, or survivor of a deceased veterinarian to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain medical records concerning any patient of the deceased veterinarian for at least two years from the date of their death; 2. Within one month of the veterinarian's death, publish in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of the patients that the veterinarian's medical records are available to them from a specific person at a certain location; 3. Twenty-two months after the veterinarian's death, publish once a week for four consecutive weeks, in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided, a notice indicating to the owners of the patients that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed; 4. Send electronic notifications, to all clients that have been seen within the last three years a notice indicating the termination or relocation of the practice and that the veterinarian's medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the 	Effective 5/23/2023

		<p>veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years; and</p> <p>5. Maintain the existing practice's website for two years posting a notice indicating to the owners that the medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years.</p>	
Florida	<u>FL Rule 61G18-18.0015</u>	<p>Requires a veterinarian who terminates practice or relocates practice and is no longer available to patients or clients to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain medical records for at least three years after the date of last entry; 2. No later than one month after termination/relocation publish in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of their patients that the medical records are available to them from a specific person at a specific location; 3. Three years after termination/relocation, publish once each week for four consecutive weeks, in the newspaper of greatest general circulation in the county where the veterinarian resided or practiced, a notice indicating to the owners of their patients that the medical records may be disposed of or destroyed one month or later from the last day of the fourth week of publication of the notice (this does not require a veterinarian to destroy records, only permits destruction provided notice is given); and, 4. Send electronic notifications, to all clients that have been seen within the last three years a notice indicating the termination or relocation of the practice and that the veterinarian's medical records are available to the owners from a specific person at a certain location and that the veterinarian's medical records will be disposed of or destroyed in two years. 	Effective 5/23/2023
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 60/FL H.B. 1061</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required a provider of companion animal cremation services to provide certain individuals and entities with a written description of the services the provider offers; 2. Required certain persons or entities that make referrals to providers or accept deceased companion animals for cremation through a provider to make a copy of the provider's written description of services available to owners or their representatives; and, 3. Required certain providers to include a certification with the returned animal's cremation remains. 	Failed Sine Die
Indiana	<u>IN S.B. 277/IN H.B. 1389</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires animal facilities, including veterinary offices and overnight boarding facilities, constructed or remodeled after June 23, 2023, to have either an operating fire alarm system designed by a fire alarm technician or staff on duty any time a dog or cat is present; and, 2. Allows the local fire department or the Department of Homeland Security to periodically inspect all animal facilities. 	Enacted 5/1/2023
Maine	<u>ME L.D. 688</u>	Prohibits non-compete agreements when the employee is a veterinarian without an ownership stake in the practice.	Enacted 6/1/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 1218</u>	Prohibits any non-compete agreements for veterinarians and voids any current non-compete agreements for veterinarians.	Enacted 8/1/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 1309/MA H. 2019</u>	Would:	Introduced 1/19/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct the Commissioner of Agriculture to create rules mandating certain standards at kennels such as housing, space, veterinary care, nutrition, and hydration; and, 2. Create a committee to advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on the promulgation of rules for kennels, the committee must include one veterinarian or member of a veterinary medical association organized within the commonwealth. 	
New Jersey	<u>NJ A. 5256/NJ S. 3137</u>	Would require the publication of prices for standard and emergency services provided by veterinarians.	Failed Sine Die
North Carolina	<u>NC S.B. 582</u>	Requires the Veterinary Medical Board to send a notice one week prior to a veterinary facility inspection with a checklist of standards the inspector may issue a violation for failing to meet.	Enacted 6/27/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-17</u>	Requires all house-call veterinary practices that are not extensions of a fixed veterinary care facility to provide the client with after-hours care and/or fixed location veterinary facility names and contact information, which the client can refer to as necessary. The house-call veterinarian must receive general approval from the veterinary facility to refer future patients to their facility.	Effective 1/8/2024
Oregon	<u>OR H.B. 2652</u>	Would authorize counties to declare a shortage of health care and human services personnel, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians, and apply to the Oregon Health Authority for money to make grants to employers to alleviate the shortage by offering certain benefits to potential workers and educators.	Prefiled 1/9/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 979</u>	Would allow the Commonwealth's Department of Agriculture to require anyone who offers domestic animal, commercial feed, or pet food for sale to the public to provide a posted notice on the premises with information on a dangerous transmissible disease.	Introduced 11/6/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA H.B. 1099</u>	Would allow the Commonwealth's Department of Agriculture to require anyone who offers domestic animal, commercial feed, or pet food for sale to the public to provide a posted notice on the premises with information on a dangerous transmissible disease.	Introduced 5/3/2023
Texas	<u>TX H.B. 4069</u>	Requires the BVME to adopt rules requiring a veterinarian to disclose a description and estimated price of proposed treatment before providing emergency medical treatment.	Enacted 6/11/2023

Spaying | Neutering

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 722/FL H.B. 719</u>	Allows out-of-state veterinarians to perform dog or cat sterilization services or routine preventative health services at the time of sterilization as an unpaid volunteer under the supervision of a state-licensed veterinarian.	Enacted 6/12/2023
Maine	<u>ME L.D. 595 (S.P. 263)</u>	Creates a companion animal sterilization program and allows veterinarians to enter into an agreement with the State to provide sterilizations and be paid by the fund.	Enacted 7/31/2023
Maryland	<u>MD S.B. 0937</u>	Would have allowed grant funds from the State's spay/neuter fund to finance wellness care for cats/dogs at the time of service, mobile veterinary clinic transportation, and transportation services to bring animals to the clinic from an underserved area.	Failed Sine Die
New York	<u>NY S. 6336</u>	Would require cats and dogs who are neutered or spayed by a veterinarian to be held for twenty-four hours after the procedure	Introduced 4/14/2023

		to monitor for adverse effects and to undergo a follow-up exam within twenty-four hours after such procedure by a duly licensed veterinarian.	
--	--	---	--

State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR S.B. 403	Abolishes several state boards, including the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, and transfers the powers, duties, and functions of the VMEB to the Livestock and Poultry Commission.	Enacted 4/11/2023
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1394	Would: 1. Increase the number of state veterinary medical examining board members from nine to eleven members (six licensed veterinarians [with at least one being a rotating board-certified veterinary specialist], one representative of the livestock industry, one representative of a humane society, one CVT, and two from the general public); and, 2. Require the board to notify a complainant in its initial contact with the complainant that the veterinarian may be represented or bring an attorney to a hearing or meeting.	Introduced 1/30/2023
Washington, D.C.	DC B25-0312	Requires: 1. At least 50% of health professional licensing board positions, including those for the Board of Veterinary Medicine designated for professional members be filled by District residents at the time of their appointments and while they are members of the board; 2. The chairperson of each board to be a District resident while they are a member of the board; 3. Each professional member of a board who is not a District resident: a. Be actively engaged in the practice of the health occupation regulated by the board in the District while they are a member of the board; b. Have a physical practice, or be employed, in the District in which they are physically present in the District for at least 20 hours per week; and c. Demonstrate that their practice in the District is not primarily through telehealth.	Enacted 11/21/2023
Georgia	GA H.B. 33	Would: 1. Move the State Board of Veterinary Medicine to be an independent state agency attached to the Department of Agriculture; 2. Authorize the reimbursement of members of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine; 3. Provide for the powers and duties of the board; 4. Permit the board to employ an executive director; and, 5. Establish the powers and duties of the executive director.	Introduced 1/13/2023
Hawaii	HI H.B. 243	Would establish and appropriate funds for one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) permanent veterinary medical officer position within the Department of Health.	Introduced 1/19/2023
Illinois	IL S.B. 1372	Would create a dog training licensure process regulated by a board that would have to have one member who is a veterinarian licensed in Illinois, either a board-certified veterinary behaviorist or has professional certification in dog training.	Introduced 2/6/2023
Indiana	IN S.B. 0004	Permits a veterinarian, and other health-related professionals, to be a member of the local board of health for counties with a population of less than 200,000.	Enacted 5/4/2023
Kentucky	201 KAR 16:550	Would establish the certification requirements, standards for proper drug storage, and drugs that may be used by certified	Proposed 12/11/2023

		animal control agencies and the certified animal euthanasia specialists they employ. This includes authorization for certified animal control agencies to apply for a restricted controlled substances certificate from DEA.	
Kentucky	<u>201 KAR 16:552</u>	Would establish the duties of the animal control agency designated on-site manager, standards for proper drug storage, and drugs that may be used by certified animal control agencies and the certified animal euthanasia specialists they employ.	Proposed 11/13/2023
Kentucky	<u>201 KAR 16:701</u>	Would establish standards for medical records created for animal patients by board credential holders.	Proposed 7/12/2023
Kentucky	<u>201 KAR 16:702</u>	Would set forth minimum standards for surgical procedures.	Proposed 7/12/2023
Kentucky	<u>201 KAR 16:750</u>	Would set forth the scope of practice under various levels of veterinarian supervision and clearly define appropriate roles to be assigned by supervisors.	Proposed 7/12/2023
Kentucky	<u>KY S.B. 46</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moves the Office of State Veterinarian's Division of Animal Health to the Division of Regulatory Field Services; 2. Updates the Division of Producer Services to the Division of Animal Health Programs; and, 3. Establishes the Division of Emergency Preparedness and Response. 	Enacted 3/17/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN H.F. 911</u>	Would increase the number of members of the Board of Animal Health from six to eleven members with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two at-large members; 2. One member who is a member of a federally recognized Tribe in Minnesota; and, 3. Eight regional members (with no two members residing in the same congressional district). 	Introduced 1/26/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F. 1955/MN H.F. 2278</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand the Board of Animal Health from six to seven members (three who are livestock producers, one from a federally-recognized tribe and experienced in animal husbandry, and three practicing veterinarians with one who specializes in companion animals); and, 2. Appropriate \$250,000 to purchase equipment for the Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. 	Amended 4/11/2023
Montana	<u>MT H.B. 87</u>	Revises laws related to licensing boards, including the Board of Veterinary Medicine by decreasing the number of board members from seven to five (three veterinarians, one technician, and one public member).	Enacted 5/19/2023
Montana	<u>MT H.B. 152</u>	Would have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Required an applicant for licensure as a veterinarian to have a degree from a veterinary medical school having education standards equal to those approved by the AVMA and passed a board-approved examination; 2. Defined levels of supervision, "veterinary medicine," and "veterinary technician;" 3. Permitted a veterinarian to delegate an employee task that a veterinarian believes after reasonable inquiry or observation is within the employee's training and skills, permitted under the level of supervision, and clearly defined by established office protocol; 4. Required the veterinary board to adopt rules to establish qualifications for licensure as a certified euthanasia agency or technician; and, 5. Required an applicant for licensure as a veterinary technician to have graduated from a program accredited by the AVMA or have 4,500 hours of experience gained under 	Failed 5/8/2023

		the supervision and employment of a veterinarian, and pass an examination as prescribed by the veterinary board.	
New Hampshire	<u>NH H.B. 2</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change membership of the Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) from seven to five members and from requiring five veterinarians to three; 2. Remove the current vacancy provision for the BVM to instead require members to serve a one-year term and hold an election every year; 3. Remove language allowing the BVM to examine the qualifications and fitness of applicants seeking licensure; 4. Remove language permitting the BVM to issue, renew, deny, suspend, or revoke licenses and temporary permits to practice veterinary medicine; and, 5. Remove language requiring physical therapists who practice on animals to be certified by the BVM. 	Provisions Impacting Veterinary Practice Amended Out 6/7/2023
New Jersey	<u>NJ S. 3743</u>	Would add two new members to the state pharmacy board, one new member must be a pharmacist specializing in drug compounding and the other must be a veterinarian pharmacist.	Failed Sine Die
New Jersey	<u>NJ A. 5364</u>	Would create the New Jersey Dog Trainer Licensure Board to regulate the practice of dog training, and one member must be a veterinarian.	Failed Sine Die
North Carolina	<u>NC Occupational Licensing Boards and Commissions, Veterinary Medical Board</u> 21 NCAC 66 .0108 And 21 NCAC 66 .0901-.0905	21 NCAC 66 .0108 removed the veterinary student preceptee registration fee and added veterinary facility permit fees. 21 NCAC 66 .0901-.0905: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creates a framework for veterinary facility permits; 2. Requires veterinary facilities to have a supervising veterinarian to alert owners of instances of non-compliance with board rules; 3. Creates a disciplinary process for veterinary facility permits; and, 4. Creates a process for reinstatement of veterinary facility permits following suspension or revocation. 	Effective 10/2/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC S.B. 282</u>	Would require the Veterinary Medical Board to send a notice one week prior to a veterinary facility inspection with a checklist of standards the inspector may issue a violation for failing to meet.	Introduced 3/9/2023
Ohio	<u>OH 4741-1-25</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allows the VBM to establish a confidential, non-disciplinary program for the evaluation and treatment of veterinarians and veterinary technicians who need assistance with a potential or existing mental health/substance use disorder; and, 2. Allows the VBM to refer professionals to that program. 	Effective 7/1/2023
Texas	<u>TX S.B. 1414/ TX H.B. 1560</u>	Moves the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to the Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for 4 years.	Enacted 6/18/2023
Texas	<u>TX S.B. 1850/ TX H.B. 3945</u>	Requires the governor to designate a veterinarian member of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to serve as the presiding officer of the board.	Enacted 5/27/2023

Texas	<u>TX H.B. 4069</u>	Requires the BVME to adopt rules requiring a veterinarian to disclose a description and estimated price of proposed treatment before providing emergency medical treatment.	Enacted 6/11/2023
Texas	<u>TX 4 TAC §§42.1</u>	Would require the Animal Health Commission to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select participants of the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program; 2. Establish criteria necessary for qualification as a rural sponsor; and, 3. Govern agreements of financial support between the rural sponsor and an eligible participant. 	Introduced 2/27/2023

Taxes & Credits | Exemptions | Sale & Use

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	<u>FL S.P.B. 7062/FL H.B. 7063</u>	Includes the purchase for non-commercial use of cat and dog food, over-the-counter pet medications, portable kennels/pet carriers, leashes, collars, muzzles, food and water bowls, litter, litter pans, pet waste bags, pet pads, hamster or rabbit substrate, and pet beds (with certain price limits) to the state's disaster preparedness tax holiday qualifying items list.	Enacted 5/26/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 3664</u>	Would exempt animal medications prescribed by veterinarians from the sales tax.	Introduced 1/20/2023
New Jersey	<u>NJ S. 3852/NJ A. 5392</u>	Would establish an annual ten-day sales tax holiday for certain sales of disaster preparedness supplies and equipment, including pet-related supplies for domestic companion animals—pet beds, collapsible and travel-sized pet feeding bowls, cans and pouches of wet pet food, bags of dry pet food weighing 15 or fewer pounds, collars and leashes, pet waste disposal bags, pet substrate and bedding, and portable pet kennels and travel crates—from September 21 st -30 th each year.	Failed Sine Die
New Jersey	<u>NJ S. 3865/NJ A. 5454</u>	Would exempt sales of pet food and medication purchased for pets from sales and use tax.	Failed Sine Die
New York	<u>NY S. 107/NY A. 85</u>	Would provide a tax credit for spay and neuter services.	Introduced 1/4/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 295/NY A. 387</u>	Would establish a tax credit for the cost of veterinary services of up to \$2,000 per year.	Introduced 1/9/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 401/NY A. 756</u>	Would create a tax exemption for drugs and medicines for companion animals and livestock.	Introduced 1/11/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 1414/NY A. 1547</u>	Would exempt services provided to board an animal when rendered by a licensed and registered veterinarian or by a commercial horse boarding operation from sales and use taxes.	Introduced 1/11/2023
North Dakota	<u>ND H.B. 1455</u>	Exempts materials used in the research and development of bioscience and biotechnology, including veterinary medicine, from the sales and use tax.	Enacted 4/26/2023
Pennsylvania	<u>PA S.B. 620</u>	Would create exclusions from the state's sale and use tax for guide dogs, hearing dogs, and service dogs for related products and services, including veterinary services, diagnostic procedures, and prescription and nonprescription drugs.	Introduced 4/25/2023
Virginia	<u>VA S.B. 985 / VA H.B. 1563</u>	Exempts medicines and drugs sold to a veterinarian if used or consumed directly in the care, medication, and treatment of agricultural production animals or for the resale to a farmer for the direct use in producing an agricultural product for market, and others, from the sales and use tax.	Enacted 3/26/23
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1406</u>	Would have eliminated the requirement for cat and dog owners to pay a license tax.	Failed Sine Die

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship Telemedicine			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Alaska	<u>AK 12 AAC 68.215</u>	<p>Defines a veterinarian-client-patient relationship as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting an initial physical meeting with the client and patient where the veterinarian performs a physical examination, or is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient through medically appropriate visits to the premises where the patient is maintained; 2. Having sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the patient's medical conditions; 3. Assuming responsibility for making clinical judgments for the health of the patient and the need for medical therapy; 4. Maintaining patient records; and, 5. Providing oversight of treatment and being readily available to provide follow-up care in the event of adverse reactions or failure of the treatment regimen. <p>Also:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permits a VCPR to be maintained by electronic or telephonic means during the 12 months that follow the initial exam or premises visit; 2. Permits a licensed veterinarian or client to decline or discontinue a VCPR; 3. Does not require a VCPR if a licensed veterinarian provides emergency care in good faith; and, 4. Permits initial evaluations of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in regions of the state where there is no locally available veterinarian if travel is impossible; the veterinarian requests that, when reasonably achievable, the patient be presented for an in-person examination or that the veterinarian conducts a medically appropriate visit to the premises where the patient is kept; and the veterinarian provides the client with the veterinarian's identity and clinic address. 	Finalized 4/5/2023
Arizona	<u>AZ S.B.1053</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When establishing a VCPR, allows a veterinarian to obtain current knowledge of the animal via real-time electronic examination using an audio-video-based communication medium and requires a veterinarian to obtain informed consent, and requires a number of disclosures to the client; 2. For an electronically established VCPR, a prescription for drugs or medications may be issued for a course of treatment that is up to 14 days, instead of the initially proposed 30 days. Such a prescription may be renewed one time based upon an additional electronic examination, and it may not be further renewed without an in-person examination; 3. Controlled substances may not be prescribed without an in-person examination. 	Enacted 5/8/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR S.B. 5</u>	Would have required the Veterinary Medical Examining Board to promulgate rules outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine to mirror the Telemedicine Act (§ 17-80-29 401 et seq.), including without limitation the establishment of a professional relationship.	Sine Die 5/1/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1566</u>	Prohibits a Veterinary Technician Specialist from receiving compensation for performing Specialized Veterinary Technology.	Enacted 3/30/2023

California	<u>CA S.B. 669</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires a veterinarian to be personally acquainted with the care of the animal by an examination of the animal or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and, 2. Allows a veterinarian, to permit an RVT to administer an animal patient preventive or prophylactic vaccine or medications for the control or eradication of an apparent or anticipated internal or external parasite, to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship by indirect supervision of the RVT, while working in unhouseed or underserved communities, and the veterinarian assumes all risk for acts of the RVT. 	Enacted 10/13/2023
California	<u>CA A.B. 1399</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permits a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to be established via telemedicine; 2. Prohibits a veterinarian from issuing a prescription lasting more than six months, except for antimicrobials which are limited to 14 days; 3. Requires a veterinarian to perform an examination, in-person or via telemedicine, to refill a patient's prescription; and, 4. Prohibits a veterinarian from issuing a prescription for a controlled substance or xylazine unless the veterinarian has performed an in-person examination of the patient or made medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the patient is kept. 	Enacted 10/8/2023
Delaware	<u>DE S.B. 168</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creates statutory language for a VCPR and requires the veterinarian to be personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by a timely examination of the patient, or medically appropriate and timely visits to the operation where the patient is managed; 2. Allows for operations where there are several animals, such as shelters, farms, laboratories, or zoos, the veterinarian-client-patient requirement may be established and maintained by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Examination of health, laboratory, or production records; b. Consultation with owners, managers, directors, caretakers, or other supervisory staff who oversee the health care management of the operation; or, c. Maintenance of information regarding the local epidemiology of diseases for the appropriate species; 3. Amends the former licensure exemptions statute to only allow in-state licensed veterinarians and create a new exemption section to add exemptions for veterinarians and veterinary technicians licensed in another state practicing during an emergency; 4. Repeals allowance for issuance of a temporary permit to practice to an individual who has not passed the licensing examination and also requires compliance with reciprocity requirements; 5. Repeals the seven-year grandfathering provision and allows veterinary technicians to obtain temporary licenses pending passing the licensure examination; 6. Repeals the seven-year grandfathering provision, which was adopted when the Board first began to license veterinary technicians; 	Enacted 9/21/2023

		<p>7. Allows the Board to impose monetary penalties on licensees who are found to have committed a regulatory or statutory violation;</p> <p>8. Allows veterinary technicians to obtain temporary licenses pending the passing of their licensure examination.</p>	
Washington, D.C.	<u>DC B25-0545</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow a health professional licensed in the District to provide telehealth services to a District resident or person located in the District if doing so is consistent with applicable standards of care, scope of authorized practice, and not prohibited by law or regulation; 2. Allow a practitioner-client relationship to be established via telehealth; 3. Require all health professionals providing telehealth services who are authorized to prescribe medications to register with the District and comply with all requirements of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act of 2013; and, 4. Amend the definition of “veterinarian” to require the individual to be licensed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia to practice veterinary medicine in the District. 	Introduced 10/20/2023
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 554</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarified that, in addition to medically appropriate and timely visits to a premise, an in-person examination is needed to establish a VCPR; 2. Defined “Veterinary telemedicine” as the practice of veterinary medicine with an established VCPR in a remote setting in which patient care, treatment, and services are provided through the use of telecommunications, including telephone and audio-visual technology; 3. Allowed a veterinarian through telemedicine to order and prescribe drugs; 4. Allowed telemedicine to maintain a VCPR; 5. Allowed a veterinarian with an existing VCPR to refer a specific patient to a specialist and the specialist to consult directly with the client through telemedicine under the referring veterinarian’s VCPR as long as the referring veterinarian is updated and consulted through the process of care; 6. Clarified that the practice of veterinary medicine occurs when the veterinarian or the patient is located within Florida at the time the veterinarian practices veterinary telemedicine, regardless of where the veterinarian’s physical office is located; and, 7. Allowed an employee, agent, or contractor of a county or municipal animal control authority acting under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian to vaccinate impounded dogs, cats, and ferrets against rabies. 	Failed Sine Die
Florida	<u>FL S.B. 1600/FL H.B. 1117</u>	<p>Would have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allowed a VCPR to be established by telemedicine; 2. Required a veterinarian practicing telemedicine to provide clients with a statement containing the veterinarian’s identity, license number, and contact information, as well as contact information for at least one physical veterinary clinic in the vicinity of the pet’s location and instructions for how to receive patient follow-up care or assistance if the veterinarian and client are unable to communicate because 	Failed Sine Die

		<p>of a technological or equipment failure or if there is an adverse reaction to treatment;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Required the veterinarian practicing telemedicine to obtain a signed and dated statement from the client indicating the client has received the required information; 4. Allowed a veterinarian practicing telemedicine to order, prescribe, or make available medicinal drugs, but not controlled substances unless an in-person physical exam or medically appropriate timely visits have occurred; and, 5. Allowed an employee, agent, or contractor of a county or municipal animal control authority acting under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian to vaccinate impounded dogs, cats, and ferrets against rabies. 	
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 2059</u>	<p>Makes changes to the veterinary practice act, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarifying that an examination must be conducted in person to establish a VCPR; 2. Requiring an existing VCPR for the practice of telemedicine when a physical examination of the patient has been conducted within one year and if it is possible to make a diagnosis and create a treatment plan without a recent physical examination based on professional standards of care; and, 3. Allowing a supervising veterinarian to delegate telehealth services to a certified veterinary technician who is acting under direct or indirect supervision. 	Enacted 7/28/2023
Kentucky	<u>KY H.B. 167</u>	<p>Updates the Veterinary Practice Act by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarifying that a physical examination or medically appropriate in-person visit within the previous twelve months is required to establish a VCPR; 2. Permitting an established VCPR to extend to another veterinarian employed in the same registered facility who is also licensed to practice and has sufficient knowledge in the medical record to make a decision; 3. Prohibiting a VCPR from being established solely by telehealth means; 4. Creating a new permit class for allied animal health professionals practicing animal chiropractic and defining "animal chiropractic"; 5. Providing title protection for licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians; 6. Establishing rules for telehealth, records retention, and veterinary facilities; 7. Providing the board increased authority to take action against those in violation of the Practice Act and those offering veterinary services without a board credential; 8. Establishing license renewal procedures for veterinary technicians, animal euthanasia specialists, and veterinary facilities; 9. Updating the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners member to eleven members (seven veterinarians, one public member, one veterinary technician, one allied animal health professional permittee, and the Commissioner of Agriculture of their designee); and, 10. Exempting from the practice of veterinary medicine the owner of an animal or their agent euthanizing their livestock. 	Enacted 3/24/2023
Michigan	<u>MI R 338.4901 - R 338.4933</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires that a veterinarian practicing telehealth Have sufficient, current knowledge of the animal patient to render 	Effective 3/22/2023

		<p>telehealth services demonstrated by satisfying one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Except in the case of an emergency, have recently examined the animal patient in person; or, b. Have conducted medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Requires that an applicant seeking licensure by endorsement hold a license in good standing and be actively practicing in another state or province of Canada; 3. Creates a regulatory chart for licensure by endorsement requirements based on years of experience; 4. Amends regulatory chart for re-licensure requirements; 5. Allows the delegation of an act, task, or function that falls within the practice of veterinary medicine to a veterinary student or veterinary assistant who is qualified to perform the act, task, or function if the veterinarian has examined the animal patient to determine appropriate treatment and maintains a degree of close proximity necessary to observe, monitor, and provide the supervision required; and 6. Requires veterinarians to provide copies of complete medical records upon written or oral request from the client. 	
Michigan	<u>MI H.B. 4980</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outline requirements for a VCPR; 2. Allow for a VCPR to be established with an exam through telehealth using real-time interactive audio and visual electronic technology for companion animals and not in instances to issue an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection or a pet health certificate; 3. Prohibit prescribing more than a 14-day supply of the drug with no refills for an animal who was examined electronically, but would allow one additional 14-day supply following an additional electronic examination; and, 4. Require an in-person examination for the prescription of controlled substances. 	Introduced 9/14/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN S.F. 2128</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define “remote supervision,” veterinary technology,” and “direct supervision;” 2. Establish licensure requirements for veterinary technicians; and, 3. Establish institutional licensure and scope of practice for veterinarians employed by the University of Minnesota. 	Amended 3/22/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 6745</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow the use of telehealth by veterinarians; 2. Require veterinarians practicing telehealth to have sufficient knowledge of the animal by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recently examining the animal in person or have obtained current knowledge of the animal patient through instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically; or b. By conducting medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the group of animal patients is kept. 3. Require providers to make themselves readily available to the patient for follow-up veterinary services or ensure there is another suitable provider available for follow-up care; 	Introduced 5/8/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Allow veterinarians practicing telehealth to prescribe drugs if the veterinarian is a prescriber acting within the scope of their practice and in compliance with existing law; and, 5. Define “telehealth” as the use of electronic information and communication technologies by a veterinarian to deliver animal health care services, which shall include the assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and care management of an animal patient. Telehealth shall not include delivery of health care services by means of facsimile machines, or electronic messaging alone, though use of these technologies is not precluded if used in conjunction with telemedicine, store and forward technology, or remote patient monitoring. 	
Tennessee	<u>TN S.B. 1149/TN H.B. 1132</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require that a licensed veterinarian (or a licensed veterinarian with access to the patient's medical records) who engages in the practice of veterinary medicine for a livestock producer conduct an initial physical meeting with the client and patient, have sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate a preliminary diagnosis, assume responsibilities for making clinical judgments, maintain patient records, provide oversight of treatment, and be readily available to provide follow-up medical care; 2. Permit a VCPR to be maintained by electronic or telephonic means during a twenty-four-month period before an additional physical exam or premise visit is required; 3. Permit a veterinarian or a client to decline or discontinue a VCPR; 4. Permit a veterinarian to provide emergency care, in good faith, without an established VCPR; and, 5. Permit a licensed veterinarian to conduct an initial evaluation of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in remote regions of the state where there is no locally available veterinarian if travel for a physical exam or premise visit is impossible, the veterinarian requests an in-person examination at the earliest date, and the veterinarian provides the client with their identity, location, licensure status, and any privacy or security issues involved in accessing veterinary service through electronic means. 	Introduced 1/31/2023

Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1182</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permits and defines a “collaborative practice agreement” between a veterinarian and a veterinary technician specialist; 2. Requires a veterinary technician specialist to complete eight additional hours of advanced continuing education in his or her specialty annually; 3. Prohibits a veterinarian from entering a collaborative practice agreement with more than three veterinary technician specialists at one time; 4. Permits the veterinary board to grant a certificate of prescriptive authority to a veterinary technician specialist who has a collaborative practice agreement with a veterinarian and has knowledge of state and federal laws and rules on prescribing; 5. Permits veterinary technician specialists in a collaborative practice agreement to establish a preliminary VCPR on 	Enacted 2/27/2023

		<p>behalf of the veterinarian and order diagnostics, provide a diagnosis or a prognosis, and develop a treatment plan with the veterinarian; and,</p> <p>6. Requires the veterinarian to see the patient within fifteen days of the veterinary technician specialist establishing the preliminary VCPR.</p>	
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1566</u>	Prohibits a Veterinary Technician Specialist from receiving compensation for performing Specialized Veterinary Technology.	Enacted 4/4/2023
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1673</u>	Would have allowed a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with a pre-veterinary emphasis in lieu of a degree from an AVMA CVTEA accredited program as part of an application for certification as a veterinary technician.	Failed Sine Die
Massachusetts	<u>MA S. 207/MA H.B. 332</u>	<p>Would establish the practice and licensure of veterinary technicians by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing a subsidiary board for veterinary technology within the control of the board of registration in veterinary medicine; 2. Requiring that the subsidiary board be composed of five appointees (three veterinary technicians provided by the Massachusetts Veterinary Technicians Association, one public member, and one veterinarian from the veterinary board); 3. Defining a “veterinary technician” as a graduate of an AVMA-accredited program who has passed an approved licensing exam as determined by the veterinary board and has applied for a license; 4. Defining a “veterinary assistant” as an individual working as part of the veterinary healthcare team who is not licensed as a veterinary technician; and, 5. Permitting the subsidiary board to promulgate rules and regulations on the licensure of veterinary technicians, duties, and rights to veterinary technicians and assistants, all to be approved by the veterinary board. 	Introduced 1/18/2023
Minnesota	<u>MN H.F. 1037</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish licensure of veterinary technicians; 2. Permit the veterinary board to issue a license to practice veterinary technology if an application has graduated from an AVMA or CVMA accredited program, pass the VTNE and the Minnesota Veterinary Technician Jurisprudence Examination, completes a criminal background check, and any other qualifications established in rules by the board; 3. Permit the veterinary board to issue alternative licensure if the technician if the application is submitted before July 1, 2024, and the person is in good standing with the MVMA or has at least 4,160 hours within the previous five years and letter of recommendation with a licensed veterinarian; and, 4. Provide title protection for use of “veterinary technician” or “LVT;” and, 5. Clarify the role of veterinary assistants. 	Introduced 1/30/2023
Mississippi	<u>MS Proposed Adoption of Revised Postsecondary Career and Technical Education</u>	Would revise the Veterinary Technician curriculum framework at community colleges.	Published 4/4/2023

	<u>Curricula 67</u>		
New Hampshire	<u>VET 102.01</u>	Amends the definition of “veterinary technician” to create a training and testing requirement and title protection.	Effective 10/15/2023
New Hampshire	<u>Vet 802</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes rules for veterinary nurses, technicians, and assistants; 2. Outlines tasks allowed to be performed by veterinary nurses, veterinary technicians, students, and veterinary assistants and levels of supervision required; and, 3. Creates a testing requirement for the VTNE. 	Adopted 12/20/2023
North Carolina	<u>NC S.B. 135</u>	Provides title protection for registered veterinary technicians.	Enacted 7/7/2023
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-01</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removes “good moral character” and photograph requirement for seeking RVT licensure; 2. Adds requirement for applicants licensed in other states to submit verification of license or certificate of good standing; and, 3. Adds date for renewal and fee for reactivation of license. 	Final File 12/08/2023 Effective 1/8/2024
Ohio	<u>OH r. 4741-1-14</u>	Allows RVTs to directly supervise animal aides performing venipuncture to collect blood samples.	Final File 12/08/2023 Effective 1/8/2024
South Carolina	<u>SC 120-8</u>	<p>Sets requirements for supervision of unlicensed veterinary aides (UVA) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making the licensed veterinarian responsible for deciding whether delegated tasks are within the capacity of the UVA and verifying and documenting the qualifications of UVA; 2. Requiring UVAs be under the appropriate degree of supervision at all times when providing patient care; 3. Allowing a UVA under indirect supervision to provide acute emergency care and in the event of a cardiopulmonary arrest a UVA can follow standing medical orders established by the veterinarian until the patient is stabilized or a veterinarian can provide supervision; 4. Clarifying that UVAs cannot make a diagnosis/prognosis, prescribe any treatment, drug, or medication, perform surgery, or identify as any other type of veterinary profession; and, 5. Requiring UVAs to clearly identify themselves so they are not mistaken for another veterinary professional. 	Effective 5/26/2023
South Carolina	<u>SC 120-9</u>	<p>Updates and clarifies regulations regarding the practice standards for licensed veterinary technicians (LVT) by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restructuring immediate, direct, and indirect supervision to allow LVTs to have a broader scope of practice; 2. Creates a new section allowing LVTs to perform other services not previously listed under the appropriate degree of supervision of a licensed veterinarian; 3. Allows an LVT under indirect supervision to provide acute emergency care and in the event of a cardiopulmonary arrest an LVT can follow standing medical orders established by the veterinarian until the patient is stabilized or a veterinarian can provide supervision; 4. Clarifies that an LVT may not represent themselves as a veterinary nurse; and, 5. Clarifies that, in accordance with state law, veterinarians can delegate duties superseding the scope of practice restrictions listed in this regulation to LVTs holding specialty certification from the NAVTA’s Committee on Veterinary 	Effective 5/26/2023

		Technician Specialists, but duties must be within the specialty certification discipline.	
South Carolina	<u>SC S.J.R. 641</u>	Would approve regulations from the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation - Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining “emergency animal patient” and “imaging”; 2. Updating and clarifying practice standards for licensed veterinary technicians; 3. Revising and moving practice standards for unlicensed veterinary aides; and, 4. Clarifying existing regulations in accordance with the statutes for licensure and examinations for veterinarians. 	Introduced 3/15/2023
South Carolina	<u>SC H.B. 4303</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a position called “certified vaccine technician” (CVT); 2. Require CVT training to include a class taught by a South Carolina veterinarian or taught by an individual or entity approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, training in vaccinating pets, and six months of experience in vaccinating pets under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; 3. Require CVTs to be re-trained every two years; 4. Require CVTs to work at a regulated animal control shelter under the direct or indirect supervision of a veterinarian; 5. Allow CVTs to administer rabies vaccines and sign rabies vaccine certificates if they include their supervising veterinarian’s name and address; and, 6. Clarify a VCPR is unnecessary for the administration of vaccines that are approved by the state’s Department of Health and Environmental Control and licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture. 	Introduced 4/6/2023
South Dakota	<u>SD S.B. 142</u>	Would prohibit a person who is not registered as a veterinary technician, or whose registration has been suspended or revoked, from advertising or otherwise representing oneself as a veterinary technician.	Introduced 1/26/2023
Washington	<u>WA WAC 246-935-060</u>	Would clarify that a registered apprenticeship program is an approved post-secondary educational pathway to qualify for licensure exams as a veterinary technician.	Proposed 10/18/2023
West Virginia	<u>WV H.B. 2995</u>	Would amend “registered veterinary technician” to “veterinary nurse.”	Introduced 1/24/2023

Wildlife | Zoo Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5156</u>	Would have prohibited the exchange, sale, trade, and breeding of cetaceans.	Failed Sine Die
Hawaii	<u>HI H.B. 901</u>	Would prohibit the public display of cetaceans.	Introduced 1/25/2023
Illinois	<u>IL S.B. 1883</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Makes it unlawful for any person to allow any member of the public to come into direct contact with a bear or nonhuman primate; and, 2. Exempts licensed veterinarians, veterinary students accompanying a licensed veterinarian, and registered veterinary technicians under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian. 	Enacted 6/30/2023
Kentucky	<u>301 KAR 2:075</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creates rules for wildlife rehabilitation permits; 2. Allows veterinarians to temporarily possess, stabilize, or euthanize sick and injured wildlife, only for the purpose of providing immediate critical care; and, 	Effective 11/1/2023

		3. Requires veterinarians who do not possess wildlife rehabilitation permits to transfer wildlife to a permitted rehabilitator within 24 hours of the animal being stabilized if the animal no longer needs critical care unless the animal is euthanized.	
Kentucky	<u>301 KAR 4: 110</u>	Allows administration of drugs: 1. To captive wildlife under the direction of a veterinarian with a VCPR; 2. To non-commercial captive cervids or critically ill or injured wildlife by a veterinarian; or, 3. At a wildlife rehabilitation facility by a permitted wildlife rehabilitator under the direction of a veterinarian with a VCPR.	Effective 6/8/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.B. 375</u>	Would require wildlife rehabilitators to enter signed written agreements with veterinarians to outline the specific procedures, services, responsibilities, and limitations of the wildlife rehabilitators in the care aid or care of sick, injured, debilitated, and orphaned wildlife.	Introduced 1/18/2023
New Hampshire	<u>NH H.B. 119</u>	1. Requires a veterinarian to perform an antemortem examination of each herd annually and keep records of inspection for bison, elk, or red deer to be slaughtered on a farm for sale; and; 2. Removes the requirement for veterinarians and owners to report slaughter.	Effective 8/4/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 506</u>	Would prohibit circuses from conducting shows or other performances in the state for two years where a circus is in violation or non-compliance with the Animal Welfare Act of 1966.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Rhode Island	<u>RI S.B. 941/RI H.B. 5345</u>	1. Requires a certificate of veterinary inspection accompany the shipment of psittacine birds into the state; and, 2. Provides that Rhode Island assents to the provisions of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act relative to the Preventive Controls for Animal Food Regulation regulations.	Enacted 6/21/2023
Wisconsin	<u>WI S.B. 126 / WI A.B. 124</u>	Would exempt zoos and aquariums operated by the state, a city, village, or county, or are an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association from the prohibition on the possession, exhibition, sale, and purchase of wild animals without a license from the Department of Natural Resources.	Introduced 3/8/2023