



State Legislative Update

January 2022

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

Animal disease and vaccination

In **Georgia**, [GA HB 1000](#) would exempt an animal from a rabies vaccination requirement if a veterinarian determines, in writing, that rabies inoculation would compromise the animal's health. The bill would also exempt an animal indefinitely if a vaccine titer shows a vaccination to be medically unnecessary. Similarly, in **Virginia**, [VA HB 1074](#) would direct the Board of Health to develop an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for animals if a licensed veterinarian certifies, in writing, that a vaccine would endanger the animal based on an underlying medical factor and a titer test indicates a sufficient level of immunity to rabies.

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

[TN HB 1910](#) / [TN SB 1882](#) in **Tennessee** would allow a certified animal control agency to administer vaccinations and microchip implants by or under the responsible supervision of a licensed veterinarian as a part of a community outreach program.

Antimicrobial use in livestock

Illinois [IL SB 4043](#) would allow medically important antibiotics, as defined by the World Health Organization, to only be administered to a food-producing animal if prescribed by a licensed veterinarian who has visited the farm operation within the previous 6 months and deemed it necessary for disease treatment; disease control; or a surgical or other medical procedure that exposes normally sterile body sites to infection. Medically important antibiotics could not be administered to food-producing animals solely for the purpose of promoting weight gain, improving feed efficiency, or disease prevention. The bill would also require producers that operate a large concentrated animal feeding operation to file an annual report containing information about drugs used.

Compounding

Legislation in **Arizona** ([AZ SB 1569](#)) would allow licensed veterinarians to obtain compounded medications from a pharmacy and maintain these medications as office stock for administering and dispensing to patients. **California** regulations, [CA 2021-1112-01](#), establish provisions for compounding in veterinary premises, including clearly defining the act of compounding. Veterinarians may compound preparations when there are no other human or animal drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and available that satisfy the need for the preparation. Veterinarians will be required to maintain formula documents for each compounded drug preparation, maintain written policies and procedures, establish a quality assurance program, and train and supervise any Registered Veterinary Technicians performing compounding. Veterinarians must also ensure the safety and efficacy of the compounded preparations and are prohibited from performing drug compounding when the complexity of the drug compounding exceeds the veterinarian's knowledge, skill, facilities, or available equipment. After much engagement by the **California Veterinary Medical Association**, these regulations go into effect on April 1, 2022.

Courtroom animal advocates

[NJ A 1965](#) in **New Jersey** would provide an advocate in criminal cases concerning animal welfare to represent the best interests of, and justice for, the animal. And [RI H 7087](#) in **Rhode Island** would create a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal. *In the interest of the animal* is a very different legal standard than *in the interest of justice*. *In the interest of justice* includes a societal interest in the humane treatment of animals, notions of fairness, and the interest of the owner, while *in the interest of the animal* is an attempt to require courts to apply the same types of standards as they would for a child.

Loan repayment programs

Arizona ([AZ SB 1271](#)), **Florida** ([FL SB 1838](#)) and **New Jersey** ([NJ A 323](#)) legislatures are all considering bills that would establish veterinary loan repayment programs. Meanwhile, amendments to the **Maine** Veterinary Medicine Loan Program ([ME L.D. 1885](#) (H.P. 1395)) were considered during a hearing on January 25. Changes championed by the **Maine Veterinary Medical Association** would include an insufficient number of practitioners of emergency and critical care services in the definition of "insufficient veterinary services"; create the option for veterinary students to qualify for the program; increase the maximum number of annual loan awards from 2 to 10, and increase the maximum loan amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

New Jersey ([NJ A 188](#)) would require veterinarians to review the Prescription Monitoring Program database before issuing a prescription for a controlled dangerous substance and provide a veterinary client with the client's own prescription monitoring information if requested.

Scope of practice

In **Indiana**, [IN SB 111](#) would allow an individual who performs teeth floating on horses to be exempt from licensing or special permit requirements if the individual has a valid certification

from the International Association of Equine Dentistry or an equivalent certification approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine. The individual would have to act under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian when administering a sedative drug to a horse prior to performing the teeth floating on the horse. This bill was passed out of the Senate Committee on Agriculture on January 18th, 2022.

Legislation that would ban declaw procedures on cats has been filed in numerous states. **New Hampshire** ([NH HB 1226](#)) and **New Jersey** ([NJ A 1087](#)) would prohibit the removal of a cat's claws for any reason other than a therapeutic purpose as deemed by a licensed veterinarian. **Maryland** ([MD HB 22/MD SB 67](#)), where the bill was filed in the fall of 2021, and **New Hampshire** legislatures held hearings on the bills in January.

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

Taxes

Nebraska [NE LB 1264](#) would change provisions relating to sales and use taxes, removing an existing exemption for veterinary services. Veterinary services, as well as specialty services performed on livestock and animal grooming performed by a licensed veterinarian or Licensed Veterinary Technician in conjunction with medical treatment, would all be included as gross income received for animal specialty services. Legislation in **Virginia** ([VA HB 551/VA SB 517](#)) would exempt veterinarians from sales and use tax on the purchase or prescription of medicines and drugs that are administered to patients within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

VCPR and telemedicine

Language backed by the **Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association** ([HI HB 1598/HI SB 2798](#)) would define a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR), telehealth terms, and the use of telemedicine. The bill would also allow the Board of Veterinary Medicine to grant temporary permits to out-of-state veterinarians and provide for international veterinary school graduates to qualify for licensure examinations in Hawaii.

Veterinary technicians

Legislation has again been introduced in **West Virginia** ([WV HB 3053](#)) which would change the term "Veterinary Technician" to "Veterinary Nurse."

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Iowa	IA SF 2135	Would provide a veterinarian immunity from administrative, civil, or criminal liability while involved in investigations involving the mistreatment of animals.	Introduced 1/27/2022
Kentucky	KY HB 71	Would:	Introduced 1/4/2022

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require peace officers and animal control officers to serve notice of seizure of an animal subjected to cruelty; 2. Create procedures for seizing agencies to petition a court to order payment of animal care costs by the owner; and, 3. Prohibit the destruction of seized animals, except for humane reasons determined by a veterinarian. 	
Missouri	MO HB 2204	<p>Related to confiscation of animals, would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold the owner of the animal liable for the costs of placement and care if negligent acts or abuse had occurred, or hold the confiscating agency responsible for costs if negligent acts or abuse are not proven; and, 2. Criminalize the intentional euthanasia, other than what is permissible to relieve suffering, or sterilization of an animal prior to the deposition hearing. 	Introduced 1/5/2022
Vermont	VT H 504	Would require the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to submit to the General Assembly a report regarding the reorganization, enhancement, and enforcement of animal welfare requirements in the State. The report would compare Animal Welfare laws and regulations of states in New England (specifically Maine) and make legislative recommendations.	Introduced 1/3/2022
Virginia	VA HB 53	Would increase the burden from reasonable cause to probable cause to obtain a warrant to conduct a search for animal cruelty.	Pre-filed 1/12/2022

Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Georgia	GA HB 1000	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exempt an animal from the rabies vaccination requirement if a licensed veterinarian determines in writing that a rabies inoculation would compromise the animal's health and exempt the animal until such time as a licensed veterinarian determines that such inoculation would not compromise the animal's health; and, 2. Exempt an animal from the rabies vaccination requirement indefinitely if a rabies inoculation is shown through the results of a vaccine titer to be medically unnecessary. 	Introduced 1/25/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 1219	Requires the owner receive a notification of rabies testing protocol and options prior to testing an animal for rabies.	Enacted 1/18/2022
Tennessee	TN HB 1910 TN SB 1882	Would allow a certified animal control agency to administer vaccinations and microchip implants by or under the responsible supervision of a licensed veterinarian as a part of a community outreach program.	Introduced 1/21/2022
Virginia	VA HB 1074	Would direct the Board of Health to develop an exemption to the rabies vaccination requirement for animals if a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that the vaccine would endanger the animal based on an underlying medical factor and a titer test indicates a sufficient level of immunity to rabies.	Introduced 1/12/2022

Animal Advocates | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New Jersey	NJ A 1965	Would provide an advocate in criminal cases concerning animal welfare to represent the best interests of, and justice for, the animal.	Introduced 1/11/2022
Rhode Island	RI H 7087	Would create a custody procedure for pets in divorce and separation proceedings based on the best interests of the animal.	Introduced 1/12/2022

Animal Shelters			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	<u>CA AB 1648</u>	Would require a city or county that requires a kennel license or permit to operate a kennel within its jurisdiction, to require, as a condition for obtaining the kennel license or permit, that the kennel owner create and submit to the city or county an animal natural disaster evacuation plan for any kennel covered by the license or permit.	Introduced 1/13/2022
Maine	<u>ME L.D. 1744 (S.P. 599)</u>	Would: 1. Increase the amount of the fees deposited in the Animal Welfare Fund; and, 2. Increase daily compensation for animal shelters holding animals pending court decisions.	Introduced 1/5/2022
New York	<u>NY S 7911</u>	Would require the release of a shelter animal to a rescue group upon request from the rescue group prior to the animal being euthanized.	Introduced 1/19/2022
Utah	<u>UT SB 69</u>	Would: 1. Require animal shelters that euthanize animals to adopt a euthanasia policy; and, 2. Require a biennial training program, approved by a licensed veterinarian, for individuals who conduct or assist with euthanasia on behalf of the animal shelter.	Introduced 1/6/2022
Virginia	<u>VA HB 373</u>	Would authorize an animal shelter to return a cat to the place from which it was taken after the expiration of the stray hold period. Any such cat must be vaccinated for rabies, spayed or neutered, and eartipped.	Introduced 1/10/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 2095</u>	Would require: 1. The governing body of each county or municipality to ensure a facility exists to house and care for their community's animals in need, including stray animals, abandoned animals, and surrendered animals; 2. Owners of a companion animal to provide veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or disease transmission; 3. A veterinarian to conduct investigations of animal shelters if the humane officer operates, is employed by, or is otherwise affiliated with that animal shelter; 4. Animal shelters to provide adequate veterinary care for sick or injured animals, such that animals suspected of illness or injury receive veterinary care within 24 hours and are provided medication necessary to alleviate pain; 5. Breeders to provide each purchaser of a dog information including a record of any veterinarian treatment and potential statement by a veterinarian; and, 6. Remedies to be provided for purchasers of dogs deemed unfit for sale provided the purchaser obtains written verification from a licensed veterinarian.	Introduced 1/12/2022

Breed-Specific Legislation			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Iowa	<u>IA SF 2035</u>	Would prohibit breed-specific bans or restrictions by counties or cities from applying to service animals or service animals in training.	Introduced 1/13/2022
Tennessee	<u>TN SB 1778</u> <u>TN HB 1967</u>	Would prohibit counties and municipalities from adopting, enacting, or enforcing a rule, regulation, resolution, or ordinance relating to a specific breed of domesticated animal.	Introduced 1/20/2022

Companion Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL HB 4643	Would require a pet shop operator to obtain documentation verifying a breeder meets or exceeds the relevant standards set by the Department of Agriculture.	Introduced 1/19/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 384 NJ A 319	Would require veterinary facilities to obtain a signed consent form for unsupervised overnight stays of domestic companion animals.	Introduced 1/21/2022
Virginia	VA HB 1330	Would require veterinarians, public or private animal shelters, and releasing agencies to seek to identify the lawful owners of the unidentified companion animals that are submitted to them by scanning for embedded microchips.	Introduced 1/21/2022

Education			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ SB 1271	Would establish the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Program for eligible veterinarians who work full-time for four years in either agricultural practice in a United States Department of Agriculture designated shortage area or a nonprofit or municipal shelter.	Introduced 1/20/2022
Florida	FL SB 1838	Would establish the Professional Student Loan Repayment Program. Under the program, veterinarians could practice in shortage areas within the state and apply for the repayment of loans used for educational expenses. The maximum an individual could receive per year would be \$50,000 for a maximum of five years.	Introduced 1/7/2021
Maine	ME L.D. 1885 (H.P. 1395)	Would amend the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Including an insufficient number of practitioners of emergency and critical care services in the definition of "insufficient veterinary services"; 2. Creating the option for veterinary students to qualify for the program by demonstrating an interest in working in underserved geographic regions of the State, as determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; 3. Increasing the maximum number of annual loan awards from 2 to 10; and, 4. Increase the maximum loan amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years. 	Introduced 1/5/2022
Mississippi	MS SB 2433	Would allow the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University to only admit applicants who have been bona fide residents of Mississippi for three consecutive years immediately preceding the date of their application. Positions in the incoming first-year class open after the first round of admissions and subsequent reservations by resident applicants could be available to nonresident applicants.	Introduced 1/17/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 323	Would create the Veterinary Medicine Loan Redemption Program for veterinarians who work at an approved site for five years.	Introduced 1/21/2022
Utah	UT SB 1	Would appropriate \$5,448,400 to the Utah State University School of Veterinary Medicine.	Introduced 1/17/2022

Emergency First Responders			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Rhode Island	RI HB 7021	Would authorize emergency medical treatment to police dogs injured in the line of duty which includes transporting by ambulance. The Dept. of Health in conjunction with the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical association would be required to develop policies and	Introduced 1/10/2022

		procedures for EMS workers administering basic first aid to the injured police dogs.	
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Equine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	IN HB 1021	Would allow a veterinary practitioner to take or supervise the taking of biological samples from race horses if they hold a special permit issued by the board of veterinary medical examiners or are exempt from licensing and special permit requirements and are appointed by the horse racing commission.	Introduced 1/4/2021

Licensure

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ HB 2626	Would: 1. Include failing to thoroughly scan for a microchip and make a reasonable effort to contact the owner as unprofessional or dishonorable conduct as grounds for refusal to issue or renew a license to practice veterinary medicine; and, 2. Require an animal shelter to thoroughly scan for the presence of a microchip in a cat or dog and make a reasonable effort to contact the owner.	Introduced 1/26/2022
Mississippi	MS HB 447	Would require the Board of Veterinary Medicine to issue a license to practice veterinary medicine if the applicant shows satisfactory proof they are a graduate of an accredited college of veterinary medicine or equivalent and the individual is licensed to practice in at least one other state or territory.	Introduced 1/5/2022
New Jersey	NJ S 182 NJ A 570	Would require licensing of pet groomers.	Introduced 1/11/2022

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL SB 4043	Would: 1. Provide that a medically important antibiotic can only be administered to a food-producing animal if prescribed by a licensed veterinarian who has visited the farm operation within the previous 6 months and deemed necessary for disease treatment; disease control; or a surgical or other medical procedure that exposes normally sterile body sites to infection; 2. Allow a producer to provide a medically important antibiotic to a food-producing animal only for the period necessary to accomplish the specified purposes; 3. Prohibit a medically important antibiotic from being administered to food-producing animals solely for the purpose of promoting weight gain, improving feed efficiency, or disease prevention; and, 4. Require a producer that operates a large concentrated animal feeding operation as defined by the US Environmental Protection Agency to file an annual report containing information about the drug and its use.	Introduced 1/21/2022
Nebraska	NE LB 848	Would authorize, when funds are available, the development and execution of county or other local emergency management organizations' catastrophic livestock mortality disposal plans, for a	Introduced 1/7/2022

		response to a disease, natural disaster, or other emergency event resulting in catastrophic livestock mortality.	
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Pharmaceuticals | Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ SB 1569	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit a pharmacist to distribute drugs (including compounded drugs) to a licensed veterinarian; 2. Permit a licensed veterinarian to possess and keep these drugs in stock for administering and dispensing the drugs pursuant to a nonpatient-specific regimen prescribed or ordered by the veterinarian; and, 3. Permit the pharmacist to distribute an unlimited quantity of compounded drugs to a veterinarian. 	Introduced 1/28/2022
California	CA 2021-1112-01	<p>Would establish provisions for compounding in veterinary premises, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defining “compounding” as altering the dosage form or delivery system of a drug, altering the strength of a drug, combining components or active ingredients, preparing a compounded drug preparation from chemicals, or preparing from bulk substances (all to be done by a licensed veterinarian with an established VCPR or an RVT under the direct supervision of a veterinarian); 2. Clarifying that compounding is not the sole act of splitting or crushing a tablet, reconstituting a drug according to the manufacturer’s directions for administration, or the addition of flavoring agents to enhance palatability; 3. Requiring a formula document for each compounded drug preparation, which would include active ingredients used, equipment used, expiration date, inactive ingredients, steps taken to prepare the drug, and instructions for storage, handling, and administration; 4. Requiring the veterinarian performing or supervising the compounding to train and supervise the RVT who is compounding the drug preparation; 5. Requiring a veterinary premise that engages in compounding drug preparations to maintain written policies and procedures and to establish a quality assurance program to assess errors that occur in drug preparations and to immediately communicate to the client; 6. Requiring a veterinarian to ensure the safety and efficacy of a compounded drug preparation; 7. Prohibiting a veterinarian from performing drug compounding when the complexity of the drug compounding exceeds the veterinarian’s knowledge, skill, facilities, or available equipment; and, 8. Prohibiting a veterinarian from compounding unless there are no other human or animal drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and available that satisfy the need for this preparation. 	Proposed/ Finalized 1/4/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 188	<p>Would require:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Veterinarians to review the Prescription Monitoring Program database before issuing a prescription for a controlled dangerous substance; 	Introduced 1/21/2022

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The pharmacy permit holder dispensing the prescription drug to submit information about the veterinary client to the Prescription Monitoring Program; 3. Veterinarians to provide a veterinary client with the client’s own prescription monitoring information if requested; 4. The pharmacy permit holder to submit identifying information about any other individual who attempts to pick up an animal’s prescription if the pharmacist has a reasonable belief that that person may be seeking the drug for any reason other than delivering the substance to the animal for the treatment of an existing medical condition; and, 5. Require prescriptions for animals to be issued in the name of the animal owner. 	
New York	NY S 8106	Would require health care professionals, including veterinarians, to prescribe opioid antagonists when prescribing an opioid and discuss the dangers of opioid addiction with such patients in a manner consistent with regulations promulgated by the commissioner of health.	Introduced 1/25/2022

Research | Research Animals

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
California	CA SB 879	Would prohibit a contract testing facility from conducting a canine or feline toxicological experiment unless the experiment is conducted for the purpose of developing, manufacturing, or marketing any product intended for beneficial use in dogs or cats, including, but not limited to, anesthesia, cancer treatment, animal vaccines, other animal medicines, or flea and tick products.	Introduced 1/26/2022
Virginia	VA SB 87 VA HB 255	Would prohibit any state entity, including a public institution of higher education, from procuring dogs or cats for research purposes from a person or entity that has received certain citations pursuant to the federal Animal Welfare Act.	Introduced 1/5/2022
Virginia	VA SB 88	Would require entities that breed dogs or cats for sale or transfer to an animal testing facility to keep records of each animal for two years from the date of the sale or transfer, and to annually submit a summary of the records to the State Veterinarian.	Introduced 1/5/2022
Virginia	VA SB 90	Would require a breeder of dogs and cats for sale or transfer to an animal testing facility that no longer has a need for a dog or cat in its possession to offer the animal for adoption prior to euthanizing it. Currently, only animal testing facilities are subject to this requirement.	Introduced 1/5/2022
Virginia	VA HB 523	Would require any person or entity that breeds dogs and cats for animal testing facilities to submit a monthly report to the State Veterinarian including information regarding the birth, acquisition, death, sale, transfer, or other disposition of a dog or cat.	Introduced 1/12/2022
Virginia	VA SB 604	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarify that dogs and cats in the possession of a person who, or an entity that, breeds dogs or cats for sale or transfer to an animal research facility are considered companion animals for the purposes of animal cruelty statutes; and, 2. Provide that breeding dogs or cats for sale or transfer to a research facility, or breeding dogs or cats within a research facility, does not constitute “bona fide scientific or medical experimentation” for purposes of animal cruelty statutes. 	Introduced 1/12/2022

Scope of Practice			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	<u>IN SB 111</u>	Would allow an individual who performs teeth floating on horses to be exempt from the licensing or special permit requirements of the veterinary medicine laws, if the individual has a valid certification from the International Association of Equine Dentistry or an equivalent certification approved by the board of veterinary medicine and acts under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian when administering a sedative drug to a horse before performing teeth floating on the horse.	Introduced 1/4/2022
New Hampshire	<u>NH HB 1226</u>	Would prohibit the removal of claws of a cat by performing an onychectomy, partial or complete phalangectomy, or a tendonectomy, by any means, on a cat except when necessary to address the physical medical condition of the cat, such as an existing or recurring illness, infection, disease, injury, or abnormal condition in the claw that compromises the cat's health; punishable by a misdemeanor.	Introduced 1/5/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 1087</u>	Would prohibit a person from performing, or causing to be performed, an onychectomy (declawing) or flexor tendonectomy procedure by any means on a cat or other animal, unless the procedure is deemed necessary for a therapeutic purpose by a licensed veterinarian. Violators would be guilty of a disorderly persons offense, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, a term of imprisonment of up to six months, or both.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 1211</u>	Would prohibit a person from cropping or altering the tail or ears of a dog for cosmetic reasons and violators would be guilty of a disorderly persons offense, punishable by up to six months imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both.	Introduced 1/11/2022
Ohio	<u>ORC 4734.10</u>	Would add "animal chiropractic" to the subjects recognized for chiropractic CE.	Introduced 1/26/2022

Small Business			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	<u>IN HB 1199</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make it a Class C infraction if an animal facility, including animals shelters and veterinary hospitals, fails to have: (1) certain automatic fire sprinkler systems; (2) certain automatic fire alarm systems; or (3) staff present at all times when dogs or cats are on the premises; and, 2. Require the state fire marshal to annually inspect certain animal facilities to determine compliance with fire sprinkler and fire alarm laws. 	Introduced 1/6/2022
Nebraska	<u>NE LB 1264</u>	Related to sales and use tax, would remove the exemption for veterinary services, specialty services performed on livestock, and animal grooming performed by a licensed veterinarian or LVT in conjunction with medical treatment and include these activities as gross income received for animal specialty services.	Introduced 1/20/2022
New Jersey	<u>NJ A 127</u> <u>NJ A 150</u>	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow any individual to voluntarily and anonymously deliver a domestic companion animal to a shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station and leave the animal with an employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the facility; 	Introduced 1/21/2022

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Not require the person to be liable for the care or disposition of the animal; 3. Not allow the employee, veterinarian, or police officer at the shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station to refuse to accept any domestic companion animal; 4. Require each shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, and police station to post at its front entrance a conspicuous sign stating the hours of operation during which the facility is open and a person is on the premises to receive a domestic companion animal; the telephone number and address of a facility where a domestic companion animal may be delivered when the shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, or police station is closed; and a warning against abandoning or relinquishing the domestic companion animal in any way other than delivering the animal to a person at a facility who can receive and care for the animal; and, 5. Direct the Commissioner of Health to establish a public education and information program to disseminate the information on the requirements of this bill to every municipality, shelter, pound, veterinary hospital, police station, and public school with students in grades 3 through 12. 	
New Jersey	NJ A 382	Would require annual inspection of veterinary facilities.	Introduced 1/21/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 661	<p>Would mandate kennels and veterinary facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide direct supervision of any indoor or outdoor common play area whenever two or more dogs are present in that area at the same time; 2. Retain records for each time a dog is released from or returned to its cage or enclosure, which must be maintained for at least one year, and made available upon request to the dog's owner and relevant governmental authorities; 3. Develop and implement a training program for all employees of the kennel or veterinary facility who handle or provide care for dogs or who supervise staff handling or providing such care; and, 4. Post a sign in a conspicuous location at or near the entrance to the kennel or veterinary facility indicating that the kennel or veterinary facility is required to comply with the supervision, record keeping, and employee training requirements of this bill. 	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	NJ S 1208	Would allow equine and livestock veterinary facilities on preserved farmland under certain conditions.	Introduced 1/31/2022
Virginia	VA HB 551 VA SB 517	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exempt veterinarians from sales and use tax on the purchase or prescription of medicines and drugs that are administered to patients within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; and, 2. Repeal provisions of the current law which state that a veterinarian dispensing or selling medicines or drugs on prescription shall be deemed to be the user or consumer of all such medicines and drugs. 	Introduced 1/12/2022

Spaying | Neutering

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Georgia	Notice of Intent to Amend Program Rules	Would provide for collaboration with veterinarians to host events providing sterilization procedures and clarify procedures for veterinarians seeking Dog and Cat Sterilization Program funding.	Notice Given 1/6/2022

Hawaii	HI HB 1610	Would establish a spay and neuter fund that is supported by an income tax check-off.	Introduced 1/20/2022
Maine	ME L.D. 1828 (S.P. 644)	Would require the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry to contract for the administration of the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund.	Introduced 1/5/2022
New Jersey	NJ S 179	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require a cat being released for adoption from an animal rescue organization facility, shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound to be spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian; 2. Require any community cat trapped and impounded at a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound, or trapped and taken to an animal rescue organization facility, to be spayed or neutered, ear tipped, and vaccinated against rabies before being returned to the location where the community cat was trapped or given to a person assuming ownership of the community cat; 3. Exempt cats from the spaying and neutering requirements if the cat is less than two months old; a licensed veterinarian determines the cat cannot be spayed or neutered for other health reasons affecting the cat; or the cat is placed in a foster home or transferred to another shelter, pound, kennel operating as a shelter or pound, or animal rescue organization facility by a shelter, pound, or kennel operating as a shelter or pound; or the cat is to be euthanized; and, 4. Establish the “Compassion for Community Cats Fund” to provide grants to establish programs to humanely trap community cats, sterilize, ear-tip, and vaccinate them against rabies, and return each feral cat to the location where the cat was trapped. 	Introduced 1/11/2022
Rhode Island	RI H 7080	Would provide that the trapping and subsequent release of any unowned feral or free-roaming cat for the purpose of spaying or neutering the cat would not be considered abandonment	Introduced 1/12/2022
Virginia	VA SB 89	Would prohibit any pet store from selling a dog or cat unless the animal had been spayed or neutered.	Introduced 1/5/2022

State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ HB 2346	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the number of members of the state veterinary medical examining board from nine to eleven members; and, 2. Increase the number of members who are not veterinarians and represent the livestock industry from three to five members. 	Introduced 1/13/2022
Indiana	IN SB 177 IN HB 1148	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make the state veterinarian the chief administrative officer of the board of veterinary medicine (board); 2. Create the Indiana Center for Animal Policy to facilitate the coordination of regulatory duties of the state board of animal health and the board of veterinary medicine; and, 3. Allow the board to adopt emergency rules. 	Introduced 1/6/2022
Indiana	IN HB 1021	Would lower the number of members of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners from 5 to 7 members; no more than 3 members could be affiliated with the same political party.	Introduced 1/4/2022
Kansas	KS HB 2523	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further define “direct supervision” to mean “in the immediate area and within audible or visual range of the animal patient and 	Introduced 1/20/2022

		<p>the person treating the patient or in the same general area in a field setting;" and,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Establish a Probable Cause Committee, consisting of up to three members of the veterinary medical board, to review the potential impairment of a licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician and attempt to resolve matters through the adjudicative hearing process. 	
Kansas	KS HB 2532	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further define "direct supervision" to mean "in the immediate area and within audible or visual range of the animal patient and the person treating the patient or in the same general area in a field setting;" and, 2. Establish a Probable Cause Committee, consisting of up to three members of the veterinary medical board, to review the potential impairment of a licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician and attempt to resolve matters through the adjudicative hearing process. 	Introduced 1/24/2022
New Mexico	NM HB 2	Would appropriate funds to the Board of Veterinary Medicine.	Introduced 1/20/2022
Oregon	OR HB 4128	Would direct the Legislative Policy and Research Office to prepare a report concerning Oregon's current framework for preventing, monitoring, and responding to zoonotic disease.	Introduced 2/1/2022
Washington	WA SB 5753	<p>Would update the Veterinary Board of Governors by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the number of members from seven to nine; 2. Increasing the number of member veterinarians from five to six; 3. Changing "lay person" to "member of the public," 4. Requiring a majority of the members to be present to represent a quorum (5 present); 5. Requiring a majority of the quorum to carry a motion or resolution, adopt a rule, or pass a measure; and, 6. Requiring that no more than two members, instead of one, can be from the same congressional district. 	Introduced 1/7/2022

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship | Telemedicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Hawaii	HI HB 1598 HI SB 2798	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define veterinarian-client-patient relationship and telehealth definitions and the use of telemedicine; 2. Authorize the veterinary medical board to grant temporary courtesy and relief permits for out-of-state veterinarians; and, 3. Allow for international veterinary school graduates to qualify for the licensure examination. 	Introduced 1/20/2022

Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New Jersey	NJ A 784	Would establish licensure and regulation of veterinary technicians.	Introduced 1/11/2022
New Jersey	NJ A 2026	Would reduce the credit hours needed for an Animal Health Technician from 18 hours to 12 hours and allow for a substitution of five years of experience for the education requirement.	Introduced 1/21/2022
West Virginia	WV HB 3053	Would change the term "Veterinary Technician" to "Veterinary Nurse."	Introduced 1/12/2022

Wildlife Zoo Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	<u>IL SB 3008</u>	Would expand provisions to make it unlawful to use animals, in addition to elephants, in a traveling animal act if they knowingly allow for the participation of an animal in a traveling animal act. The definition of “animal” would include bear, cougar, elephant, jaguar, leopard (excluding a clouded leopard), lion, non-human primate, and tiger.	Introduced 1/5/2022
West Virginia	<u>WV HB 2059</u>	Would provide a program to permit and train volunteers, called rehabilitators, to care for, protect and return injured wildlife to the wild. No rehabilitators would be permitted to practice veterinary medicine.	Introduced 1/12/2022