



State Legislative Update

January 2023

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

Abuse reporting

Legislation in **Connecticut** ([CT S.B. 53](#) and [CT H.B. 5851](#)) would address animal abuse reporting by veterinarians and provide levels of immunity. Championed by the **Iowa Veterinary Medical Association**, **Iowa** [IA S.S.B. 1038](#) would provide administrative, civil, and criminal immunity to a veterinarian who, in good faith, cooperates with a peace officer to rescue a threatened animal, providing truthful evidence, participates in a dispositional proceeding, or complies with a court order. In addition to reporting suspected or known abuse of companion animals, **Missouri** [MO H.B. 300](#) would 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.

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. Of concern are bills in **New York** ([NY S. 1659/NY A. 111](#)) which would establish court appointed advocates for animals to act in *the interests of the animal*. On the other hand, 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.

Cannabis

Nebraska ([NE L.B. 22](#)) would decriminalize the use and possession of marijuana, including for the administration to an animal. **New York** ([NY A. 2628](#)) would provide access to medical marijuana for an animal when a veterinarian determines the animal has any medical condition that may benefit from treatment with medical marijuana. AVMA resources and more information on the use of cannabis in pets can be found [here](#).

Education and loan repayment programs

Colorado [CO S.B. 23-044](#) would update the veterinary education loan repayment program by increasing the 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 a four-year period from \$70,000 to \$90,000. Bills strongly supported by the **Missouri Veterinary Medical Association** in **Missouri** ([MO S.B. 529](#) / [MO H.B. 403](#)) would permit loan repayment for more than twelve 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. **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. Legislation in **Utah** ([UT H.B. 184](#)) would establish the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$5,000,000.

Related to colleges of veterinary medicine, **Connecticut** [CT H.B. 5744](#) would require 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.

Pet insurance

Mississippi ([MS S.B. 2228/MS H.B. 1191](#)), **Nebraska** ([NE L.B. 296](#)), **New York** ([NY A. 258](#)) and **Washington** ([WA S.B. 5319/WA H.B. 1208](#)) legislatures are all considering legislation related to establishing a framework to provide pet insurance. The AVMA endorses the concept of pet health insurance that provides coverage to help defray the cost of veterinary medical care and encourages veterinary healthcare teams to proactively educate their clients about the existence of such resources. The AVMA also recognizes that viable pet health insurance programs may be an important approach for the veterinary profession to continue to provide high quality veterinary services. More information on AVMA's policy on pet insurance can be found on the AVMA [website](#).

Pharmaceuticals

Connecticut [CT H.B. 6380](#) 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. Opposed by the **Oregon Veterinary Medical Association**, legislation in **Oregon** ([OR S.B. 559](#)) would require veterinarians to participate in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and add a practicing veterinarian to the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Commission.

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 reflects 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 on the basis of 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](#).

Scope of practice

Introduced by the **Missouri Veterinary Medical Association**, a bill [MO S.B. 115/MO H.B. 801](#) was reintroduced that would prevent 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. **Texas Veterinary Medical Association** is advocating for a similar bill in **Texas** ([TX H.B. 1348](#)) which would prohibit a municipality from regulating the practice of veterinary medicine or prohibiting a veterinarian from performing a procedure on an animal.

Legislation in **Arizona** ([AZ H.B. 2335](#)), **Illinois** ([IL H.B. 1533](#)), **Massachusetts** ([MA S.D. 2140](#)), and **Virginia** ([VA H.B. 1382](#)) would all prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes. **Arizona's** bill

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 **Illinois** [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 **Massachusetts** [MA S.D. 2140](#).

Opposed by the **Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association**, **Massachusetts** [MA H.D. 2871](#) 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. Related, **Massachusetts** [MA H.D. 2870](#) 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 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. **New Hampshire** [NH H.B. 258](#) would establish a certification for animal chiropractors, require an animal chiropractor to receive a referral from a licensed veterinarian in order to treat an animal, and permit the Board of Veterinarians to establish further requirements for certification and continuing education.

Taxes

A number of state legislatures are considering veterinary tax-related provisions. **Massachusetts** [MA H.D. 3318](#) would exempt animal medications prescribed by veterinarians from the sales tax. Bills in **New York** would provide a tax credit for spay and neuter services ([NY S. 107/NY A. 85](#)); would establish a tax credit for the cost of veterinary services of up to \$2,000 per year ([NY S. 295/NY A. 387](#)); and 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 ([NY S. 1414/NY A. 1547](#)). **North Dakota** [ND H.B. 1455](#) would exempt materials used in the research and development of bioscience and biotechnology, including veterinary medicine, from the sales and use tax. Legislation in **Virginia** ([VA S.B. 985/VA H.B. 1563](#)) would exempt 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.

Vaccination

Arizona ([AZ S.B. 1194](#)) would permit 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**, **Virginia** [VA H.B. 1074](#) would provide an exemption to rabies vaccination requirements if a licensed veterinarian has examined an animal, certifies in writing that at the time of the examination, vaccination would endanger an animal's health because of its age, infirmity, disability, illness, or other medical consideration, and a titer test has indicated sufficient immunity to rabies. Certification that the animal is exempt from vaccination pursuant to this subdivision would be valid for one year and mean that the animal is considered vaccinated for rabies. The AVMA opposes legislation that would allow results from an antibody titer test to be used in lieu of vaccination.

Also opposed by the **Virginia Veterinary Medical Association**, legislation ([VA H.B. 1468](#)) would prevent 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.

Bills related to mRNA vaccines have popped up in a number of states. **Idaho** [ID S. 1018](#) would prohibit the manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale of any food that contains a vaccine or vaccine material without a label. **North Dakota** [ND S.B. 2384](#) would prohibit the use of mRNA vaccines in the state for humans or other mammals. **South Carolina** [SC H.B. 3798](#) would require the labeling of food or food products that contain mRNA. **Tennessee** legislature is considering multiple bills ([TN S.B. 369/TN H.B. 842](#) and [TN S.B. 0099](#)) that would affect labeling of meat if the animal from which the meat was derived received an mRNA vaccine.

Veterinarian-client-patient relationship and telemedicine

Strongly opposed by the **Arizona Veterinary Medical Association** and the AVMA, **Arizona** [AZ S.B. 1053](#) would permit the establishment of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship via electronic means including via audio-only telephone or a video-based communication.

Arkansas [AR S.B. 5](#) would require 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 the establishment of a VCPR relationship by telemedicine. The **Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association**, the **American Association of Bovine Practitioners** and the AVMA testified in opposition to the bill.

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 during a twenty-four-month period 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

Arkansas [AR H.B. 1182](#) would create a “collaborative practice agreement” between a veterinarian and a veterinary technician specialist (VTS). Within this agreement, a VTS would be granted prescriptive authority and the ability to establish a preliminary VCPR on behalf of the veterinarian and order diagnostics, provide a diagnosis or a prognosis, and develop a treatment plan with the veterinarian. The veterinarian would be required to “complete” the VCPR by seeing the patient within 15 days of the VTS establishing the preliminary VCPR. The **Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association** and AVMA testified in opposition to the bill during a hearing in January.

Legislation has been reintroduced in **Massachusetts** ([MA S.D. 1225/MA H.D. 1875](#)) 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.

South Dakota [SD S.B. 142](#) would provide 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.

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

Animal Abuse Cruelty			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Kentucky	KY H.B. 103	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include intentional and wanton harm to a dog or cat in the definition of “torture;” 2. Define "restrain" and "serious physical injury or infirmity;” 3. Provide 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. Define what does not constitute torture of a dog or cat. 	Introduced 1/5/2023
Massachusetts	MA S.D. 27	<p>Would:</p> <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 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, 4. Permit the board to advise MDAR on issues relating to shelters, animal control officers, animal inspectors, training and best practices. 	Introduced 1/10/2023
Massachusetts	MA H.D. 3285/ MA S.D. 2295	<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
Missouri	MO H.B. 630	<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; 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, 	Introduced 1/4/2023

		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.	
Texas	TX H.B. 978	Would establish what constitutes criminal negligence by a pet groomer to a pet in their custody.	Introduced 12/12/2022
Washington	WA H.B. 1234	Would: 1. Define “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. Permit 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 that constructive custody belongs to the seizing agency; and, 3. Permit a custodial agency to authorize a veterinarian or veterinary technician to euthanize a seized animal that is severely injured, sick, diseased, or suffering for humane reasons.	Introduced 1/11/2023
West Virginia	WV S.B. 78	Would define “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.”	Introduced 1/11/2023

Animal Disease | Vaccination

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1194	Would permit 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.	Introduced 1/23/2023
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1461	Would: 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.	Introduced 1/30/2023
California	CA A.B. 332	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
Idaho	ID S. 1018	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
Tennessee	TN S.B. 0099	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	TN S.B. 369 / TN H.B. 842	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 Introduced 1/30/2023

Massachusetts	MA H.D. 155	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 York	NY A. 173	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 Dakota	ND S.B. 2384	Would prohibit the use of vaccines developed using messenger ribonucleic acid technology.	Introduced 1/23/2023
South Carolina	SC H.B. 3798	Would require the labeling of food or food products that contain mRNA.	Introduced 1/26/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 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 1/12/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 1577	Would require 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.	Introduced 1/16/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 1468	Would prevent 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.	Introduced 12/29/2022

Animal Advocates | Court

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Illinois	IL H.B. 1169	Would: 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 on the interests of such animal.	Introduced 1/4/2023

Animal Shelters

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1067	Would: 1. Establish 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	Introduced 1/18/2023

		<p>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,</p> <p>2. Require the committee to research and report on the need for statewide consistency of animal control standards.</p>	
Missouri	<u>MO H.B. 755</u>	<p>Would:</p> <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; 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 a lay person 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. 	Introduced 1/11/2023
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. 	Introduced 1/30/2023
Utah	<u>UT S.B. 108</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require an animal shelter to use sodium pentobarbital or a derivative as the exclusive method for the euthanasia of an animal; and, 2. Require 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. 	Introduced 1/18/2023
Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1527</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorize any public or private animal shelter, releasing agency, or 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. Exempt volunteers of such program from provisions relating to abandonment and licensing of animals; and, 3. Exempt the operator of such a program from general requirements of shelters related to holding periods, release of animals, and recordkeeping. 	Introduced 1/5/2023

Cannabis | Marijuana | Hemp

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 for the administration to 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 animal has any medical condition that may benefit from treatment with medical marihuana.	Introduced 1/26/2023

Companion Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 6337</u>	Would establish a task force to study companion animal welfare and examine laws of other states concerning those animals.	Introduced 1/20/2023
Hawaii	<u>HI S.B. 998 / 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
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
Kentucky	<u>KY S.B. 56</u>	Would: 1. Define "animal shelter," "breeder," "broker," and "retail pet shop;" 2. Prohibit retail pet shops from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits; 3. Permit retail pet shops to collaborate with animal shelters to showcase dogs, cats, or rabbits; 4. Require retail pet shops to maintain records documenting the source of each dog, cat, or rabbit it sells for at least one year; and, 5. Prohibit the sale or transfer of ownership of a dog, cat, or rabbit in a publicly accessible space.	Introduced 1/6/2023
Maryland	<u>MD H.B. 365</u>	Would require 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.	Introduced 1/26/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.D. 1501</u>	Would permit a licensed veterinarian to declare a dog, cat, or rabbit unfit for sale or placement in advance of that sale or placement.	Introduced 1/18/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.D. 3009</u>	Would prohibit any person from possessing, importing, selling, buying, giving away, trafficking, or accepting any dog or cat, living or dead, for the purpose of slaughter or consumption.	Introduced 1/19/2023
New York	<u>NY S. 3148</u>	Would require the Commissioner of Agriculture to develop and maintain a searchable database of lost and found domestic animals.	Introduced 1/30/2023
New York	<u>NY A. 2001</u>	Would: 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

Virginia	<u>VA H.B. 1984</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend 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. Clarify the intervals at which dogs and cats must be provided clean, fresh, potable water unless restricted by a veterinarian. 	Introduced 1/10/2023
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Education			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	<u>CO S.B. 23-044</u>	<p>Would update the veterinary education loan repayment program by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the 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 a four-year period from \$70,000 to \$90,000. 	Introduced 1/12/2023
Connecticut	<u>CT H.B. 5744</u>	Would require the Board of Regents to establish a school of veterinary medicine.	Introduced 1/18/2023
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>	<p>Would:</p> <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 moneys, funds, real or personal property, or other assets; and, 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 York	<u>NY S. 425</u>	Would establish the Veterinarians Across Rural New York State Student Loan Repayment Fund for certain veterinarians that make a two-year commitment to practice in a tract or county defined by the health resources and services administration as being "rural" or eligible for a rural health grant.	Introduced 1/4/2023
Oklahoma	<u>OK S.B. 1005</u> <u>OK H.B. 2863</u>	Would establish the Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority with the intent to support the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine.	Introduced 2/6/2023
Utah	<u>UT H.B. 184</u>	Would establish the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program with a one-time appropriation of \$5,000,000.	Introduced 1/9/2023

Emergency First Responders			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
New York	<u>NY S. 1968</u>	Would authorize emergency medical care personnel to provide basic first aid to dogs and cats.	Introduced 1/17/2023
Wyoming	<u>WY H.B. 233</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorize emergency medical services providers to transport and treat injured police dogs; and, 2. Provide immunity to emergency medical services providers when providing care to injured police dogs. 	Introduced 1/24/2023

Euthanasia			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	IN S.B. 0423	Would: 1. Permit 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. Provide civil liability for a veterinarian acting within the scope of this section.	Introduced 1/19/2023
New Jersey	NJ S. 3529 / NJ A. 5005	Would require the distribution of a policy on the use of sedation by a veterinarian prior to the euthanasia of an animal.	Introduced 1/30/2023

Equine			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Colorado	CO S.B. 23-038	Would: 1. Prohibit the slaughter of equine for human consumption; and, 2. 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 for any human consumption.	Introduced 1/12/2023
New York	NY S. 2163	Would: 1. Prohibit 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. Prohibit 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.	Introduced 1/19/2023
South Carolina	SC H.B. 3514 SC S.B. 0303	Would establish a grant program to assist the growth and development of equine-related agriculture, business, and recreation.	Introduced 12/15/2023

Liability Legal			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1383	Would: 1. 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 health, the failure of a licensed veterinarian to supervise an unlicensed person who 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, 2. 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	CT S.B. 53	Would require veterinarians to report cases of suspected animal cruelty and provide civil and criminal immunity to those making such a report.	Introduced 1/12/2023
Connecticut	CT H.B. 5851	Would:	Introduced 1/18/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit 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; 2. Require veterinarians to report instances of animal abuse to the appropriate authorities; and, 3. Provide veterinarians who report in good faith with civil immunity. 	
Iowa	IA S.S.B. 1038	<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"> 1. In a matter relating to the conduct of their client; 2. To rescue a threatened animal, providing truthful evidence; or, 3. Participate in a dispositional proceeding or complying with a court order. 	Introduced 1/12/2023
Missouri	MO H.B. 300	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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. 2. Require veterinarians to report suspected companion animal abuse; and, 3. Provide immunity from civil and criminal liability. 	Introduced 12/1/2023

Licensure

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Maryland	MD H.B. 325	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to authorize a veterinary practitioner licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to practice veterinary medicine in another state or jurisdiction to provide routine medical care; 2. Define “routine medical care” as spaying, neutering, vaccinations, health examinations, and completing certificates of health; and, 3. Require the Secretary of Health to allow individuals who work in or for a certain veterinary hospital or a certain animal control facility to administer rabies vaccines. 	Introduced 1/25/2023
Massachusetts	MA H.D. 2527	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
Mississippi	MS S.B. 2320	Would prohibit a licensing agency from discriminating or taking a hostile action against for views on COVID vaccine.	Introduced 1/16/2023
Mississippi	MS H.B. 176	Would require the Board of Veterinary Medicine, and others, to accept military education, training and service as qualified credentials for a license or certificate.	Introduced 1/4/2023
Mississippi	MS H.B. 1366	Would prohibit licensing boards regulating healthcare practitioners, including veterinarians, from disciplining or threatening to discipline licensees for exercising their right to free speech.	Introduced 1/16/2023
New Mexico	NM S.B. 111	Would suspend provisional and initial license fees to practice occupations, including veterinary medicine, from July 1, 2023, to end June 30, 2026.	Introduced 1/19/2023

Livestock

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Connecticut	CT H.B. 5398	Would prohibit the confinement of egg-laying hens.	Introduced 1/17/2023
Hawaii	HI H.B. 1293	Would:	Introduced

		<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. 	1/25/2023
New York	NY S. 590	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	NY S. 2957 / NY A. 107	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	NY A. 473	Would prohibit any person to tether or confine 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
Oregon	OR S.B. 57	Would remove the prohibition against sale, offer for sale, maintenance or control of female cattle of beef breed that have not been vaccinated against brucellosis.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Wyoming	WY S.F. 0029	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend the requirement to distinctly brand a livestock animal following a positive brucellosis test to be discretionary; 2. Update the provisions for brucellosis testing of cattle; and, 3. Modify the documentation requirements to receive compensation for brucellosis testing. 	Introduced 12/28/2022
Wyoming	WY H.B. 0180	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require the Wyoming livestock board to establish a communication protocol to provide information related to brucellosis testing; and, 2. Require the state veterinarian to provide information to livestock owners regarding brucellosis testing. 	Introduced 1/17/2023
Wyoming	WY 8169	Would require Brucella ovis testing prior to releasing rams for common grazing with other flocks.	Published 1/19/2023

Pet Insurance

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Mississippi	MS S.B. 2228 / MS H.B. 1191	Would establish a legal framework for the sale, issuance, and renewal of pet insurance policies and include information pet insurers transacting pet insurance must disclose to consumers.	Introduced 1/13/2023
Nebraska	NE L.B. 296	Would establish a legal framework for the sale of pet insurance.	Introduced 1/11/2023
New York	NY A. 258	Would establish requirements for the issuance of pet insurance policies covering veterinary expenses.	Introduced 1/4/2023
Washington	WA S.B. 5319 / WA H.B. 1208	Would establish a framework to provide pet insurance.	Introduced 1/10/2023
Washington	WA H.B. 1101	Would establish a framework to provide pet insurance.	Introduced 1/3/2023

Pharmaceuticals Prescription Drug Monitoring Program			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
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
Massachusetts	<u>MA S.D. 590 / MA H.D. 2998</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
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 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
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

Research Research Animals			
State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Indiana	<u>IN S.B. 0258 IN H.B. 1146</u>	Would: 1. Permit the Indiana state board of animal health to bring a civil action against an animal testing facility or breeder that violate board regulations; and, 2. Provide immunity from civil liability to animal testing facility or breeder for harm caused by or a defect suffered by a cat or dog released under this chapter.	Introduced 1/10/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S.D. 238</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 at the conclusion of 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 cat 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
Oregon	<u>OR H.B. 2904</u>	Would require an institution or research facility that performs research, testing or studies involving nonhuman primates to annually report to the State Veterinarian.	Prefiled 1/9/2023
Virginia	<u>VA S.B. 1271 VA H.B. 2042</u>	Would: 1. Require state and private facilities using animal test methods to annually submit a report the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regarding the use of animals in biomedical or behavioral research for the preceding year; and, 2. Establish whistle blower protections for any violations of any animal care requirements and the Animal Welfare Whistle Blower	Introduced 1/10/2023

		Reward Fund to provide monetary rewards to persons who have disclosed any such violations.	
Virginia	VA H.B. 2000	Would permit 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.	Introduced 1/10/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 2348	Would: 1. Require animal testing facilities to register annually with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and, 2. Require animal testing facilities to report citations received for violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act.	Introduced 1/12/2023

Scope of Practice

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ H.B. 2335	Would: 1. Prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes; 2. 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, 3. 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
Illinois	IL H.B. 1533	Would prohibit a person from performing surgical claw removal, declawing, or a tendonectomy on any cat or otherwise alter 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
Massachusetts	MA S.D. 2140	Would prohibit the declawing of cats unless for therapeutic purposes.	Introduced 1/20/2023
Massachusetts	MA H.D. 2870	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	MA H.D. 2871	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
Minnesota	MN S.F. 556 / MN H.F. 758	Would prohibit landlords from encouraging or requiring tenants to declaw or devocalize an animal.	Introduced 1/23/2023
Missouri	MO S.B. 115 / MO H.B. 801	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	MO S.B. 471 / MO H.B. 88	Would: 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 Prefiled 12/1/2022

New Hampshire	NH 2023-3	Would establish requirements for the administration of animal dental care by a licensed veterinarian for surgical procedures of the head of oral cavity, anesthesia or sedation, and medical records for dental procedures.	Introduced 1/12/2023
New Hampshire	NH H.B. 258	Would: 1. Establish 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. Permit the Board of Veterinarians to establish further requirements for certification and continuing education.	Introduced 1/9/2023
New York	NY S. 142	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 1/4/2023
New York	NY A. 1844	Would: 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
Texas	TX H.B. 1348	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
Utah	UT H.B. 187	Would exempt an individual who is testing bovine for pregnancy from the requirement to be licensed under the Veterinary Practice Act.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Virginia	VA H.B. 1382	Would prohibit the declawing of cats except for a therapeutic purpose.	Prefiled 11/7/2022

Small Business

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Florida	FL S.B. 60	Would: 1. Require a provider of companion animal cremation services to provide certain individuals and entities with a written description of the services the provider offers; 2. Require 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. Require certain providers to include a certification with the returned animal's cremation remains.	Introduced 12/9/2022
Massachusetts	MA S.D. 368	Would prohibit any non-compete agreements for veterinarians and void any current non-compete agreements for veterinarians.	Introduced 1/13/2023
Oregon	OR H.B. 2652	Would authorize counties to declare shortage of health care and human services personnel, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians, and apply to Oregon Health Authority for moneys to make grants to employers to alleviate shortage by offering certain benefits to potential workers and educators.	Prefiled 1/9/2023

State Programs | Board of Veterinary Medicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1394	Would:	Introduced 1/30/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the number of state veterinary medical examining board members from nine to eleven members (six licensed veterinarians [with at least one be 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. 	
Hawaii	<u>HI H.B. 243</u>	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
Indiana	<u>IN S. 0004</u>	Would permit a veterinarian, and other health-related professions, to be a member of the local board of health for counties with a population of less than two hundred thousand.	Introduced 1/9/2023
Kentucky	<u>KY S.B. 46</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move the Office of State Veterinarian's Division of Animal Health to the Division of Regulatory Field Services; 2. Update the Division of Producer Services to the Division of Animal Health Programs; and, 3. Establish the Division of Emergency Preparedness and Response. 	Introduced 1/5/2023
Georgia	<u>GA H.B. 33</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Minnesota	<u>MN H.F. 911</u>	<p>Would increase the number of members of the Board of Animal Health from six to eleven members with:</p> <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
Montana	<u>MT H.B. 87</u>	Would decrease the number of Board of Veterinary Medicine members from seven to five (three veterinarians, one technician, and one public member).	Introduced 12/14/2022
Montana	<u>MT H.B. 152</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require 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. Define levels of supervision, "veterinary medicine," and "veterinary technician;" 3. Permit a veterinarian to delegate an employee task that a veterinarian believes after reasonable inquiry or observation are within the employee's training and skills, permitted under the level of supervision, and clearly defined by established office protocol; 4. Require the veterinary board to adopt rules to establish qualifications for licensure as a certified euthanasia agency or technician; and, 	Introduced 12/21/2022

		5. Require 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 the supervision and employment of a veterinarian, and pass an examination as prescribed by the veterinary board.	
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Taxes & Credits | Exemptions | Sale & Use

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Massachusetts	MA H.D. 3318	Would exempt animal medications prescribed by veterinarians from the sales tax.	Introduced 1/20/2023
New York	NY S. 107 / NY A. 85	Would provide a tax credit for spay and neuter services.	Introduced 1/4/2023
New York	NY S. 295 / NY A. 387	Would establish a tax credit for the cost of veterinary services of up to \$2,000 per year.	Introduced 1/9/2023
New York	NY S. 1414 / NY A. 1547	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	ND H.B. 1455	Would exempt materials used in the research and development of bioscience and biotechnology, including veterinary medicine, from the sales and use tax.	Introduced 1/18/2023
Virginia	VA S.B. 985 / VA H.B. 1563	Would exempt 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.	Introduced 1/06/23

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship | Telemedicine

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	AR S.B. 5	Would require 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.	Introduced 12/19/2022
Arizona	AZ S.B. 1053	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit the establishment of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship via electronic means including via audio-only telephone or a video-based communication; 2. Require a veterinarian to obtain consent and acknowledgement of the standards of care from the client for in-person visits and visits through electronic visits that must be maintained and documented for one-year; 3. Require a veterinarian to be able to refer a client to a local veterinarian who see the animal in-person; and, 4. Permit a veterinarian to prescribe drugs or medications through an electronically established VCPR if the prescription is for less than thirty days and is not for a controlled substance, and such prescription cannot be renewed without an in-person examination. 	Introduced 1/12/2023
Tennessee	TN S.B. 1149 / TN H.B. 1132	Would: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require that a licensed veterinarian (or a licensed veterinarian with access to the patient 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 judgements, 	Introduced 1/31/2023

		<p>maintain patient records, provide oversight of treatment, and be readily available to provide follow-up medical care;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
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Veterinary Technicians | Veterinary Assistants

State	Link	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
Arkansas	<u>AR H.B. 1182</u>	<p>Would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permit and define a “collaborative practice agreement” between a veterinarian and a veterinary technician specialist; 2. Require a veterinary technician specialist to complete eight additional hours of advanced continuing education in his or her specialty annually; 3. Prohibit a veterinarian from entering a collaborative practice agreement with more than three veterinary technician specialists at one time; 4. Permit 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. Permit veterinary technician specialists in a collaborative practice agreement to establish a preliminary VCPR on behalf of the veterinarian and order diagnostics, provide a diagnosis or a prognosis, and develop a treatment plan with the veterinarian; and, 6. Require the veterinarian to see the patient within fifteen days of the veterinary technician specialist establishing the preliminary VCPR. 	Introduced 1/23/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA S.D. 1225/</u> <u>MA H.D. 1875</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; 	Introduced 1/18/2023

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
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 role of veterinary assistants. 	Introduced 1/30/2023
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
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
Hawaii	<u>HI H.B. 901</u>	Would prohibit the public display of cetaceans.	Introduced 1/25/2023
Massachusetts	<u>MA H.D. 1559</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 York	<u>NY A. 506</u>	Would prohibit circuses from conducting shows or other performances in the state for two years where a circus has been found to be in violation or in non-compliance with the Animal Welfare Act of 1966.	Introduced 1/9/2023