The AAVSB Passed Bills Report

As of August 2024



Overview

Passed and Signed by the Governor (sorted by effective date)

*Board must adopt rules by this date **Projected

Bill Number	Description	Effective Date
<u>KY HB553</u>	Rural Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program	04/10/24
<u>UT HB0145</u>	Veterinary Technician Task Delegation	05/01/24
<u>UT HB0260</u>	Adds Gabapentin to Schedule V	05/01/24
UT HB0312	Removes Veterinarian Referral for Animal Massage	05/01/24
UT HB0522	Veterinarian Loan Repayment Program	05/01/24
PA HB979	Dangerous Transmissible Disease Notice Posting	05/08/24
SC H3592	Allows authorized dispenser to compounded drugs directly from outsourcing facility	05/13/24
MN HF5247	Appropriation Bill – includes Technician Licensing	05/24/24
MD HB1388	Adds Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians to Noncompete Laws	06/01/24
CO HB1354	Pet Facility Disease Notification	06/03/24
<u>CO SB47</u>	Removing Veterinarians from Opioid Prescriber Requirements	06/06/24
OR HB4010	Clarifies Flavoring does not Qualify as Compounding	06/06/24
<u>CA SB164</u>	Increase CURES Fees	06/29/24
DC B25-0545	Health Professions – Allows for Electronic VCPR	08/01/24**
<u>IL HB4874</u>	Prohibits a Pharmacist from Refusing to Fill a Non-Electronic Prescription	08/02/24
<u>FL H0303</u>	Allows Animal Control and Sheriffs to Administer Rabies Vaccinations	07/01/24
FL H0849	Telemedicine: Allows for electronic VCPR	07/01/24
FL S0382	CE Exemptions	07/01/24
IN SB0009	Health Care Entity Mergers and Acquisitions	07/01/24
IN SB0104	Police Disclosure of Criminal History to Board of Veterinary Medicine	07/01/24
MS HB1210	Rural Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program	07/01/24
VA HB1354	Declaw Ban	07/01/24
<u>VA SB412</u>	Allows Rabies Clinics to Offer Microchipping & Vaccines	07/01/24
<u>VT H626</u>	Establishes the Division of Animal Welfare	07/01/24
<u>WA HB1889</u>	Allows Licensure Regardless of Citizenship Status	07/01/24
<u>LA HB716 /</u>	Occupational Licensing Reciprocity	08/01/24
<u>SB60</u>		
CO HB1047	Veterinary Technician Scope of Practice	08/07/24

CO HB1048	Telemedicine: Requires in-person VCPR	08/07/24
CO HB1324	Restrictive Employment Agreements/Noncompete	08/07/24
CO SB045	Allows a Veterinarian to Declare Sterilization Could Jeopardize Pet Health	08/07/24
<u>LA SB276</u>	Schedules Mifepristone and Misoprostol (Schedule IV)	10/01/24
MD HB1097	Veterinary Technician, Assistant, and Nurse. VTs may euthanize at shelter	10/01/24
OK SB620	Re-enforces current statute that requires owners of professional entities to be licensed to render services	11/01/24
GA SB410	Temporary Licensing for Out-of-State Veterinarians for Sterilization Services	12/31/24*
MD HB647	Model Pet Insurance Act	01/01/25
VA HB848	Veterinarian Traineeship Program	01/27/25*
<u>VA SB663</u>	Requires VMB to Inspect Satellite Offices	01/30/25*
RI H7446	Substitutes the current lists of controlled substances in the general laws with the current version of title 21 of the code of federal regulations.	02/01/25
VA HJR43/ SJR15	Large Animal Veterinarian Shortage Study	11/30/25*

Canada

Bill Number	Description	Effective Date
ON Bill 171	Veterinary Professionals Act, 2024	06/06/24

Passed, but not yet Signed by Governor (sorted alphabetically)

Bill Number	Description	Effective Date
DE SB251	Restructuring DIVME	Upon Signature
NH HB1233	Removing Animal Chiropractors from Veterinary Licensing Requirements	VETOED
RI H8059/S2436	Expanding Noncompete Ban to All Employees	VETOED

Passed and Signed by the Governor

(Listed Alphabetically)

California SB164

State Government

Summary

This bill makes numerous changes to state government, including: (1) Requiring
minimum education hours for certain licensed professions to be equal to the
number approved by the Department of Consumer Affairs, and allowing education
programs to request reductions in hours. (2) Increasing the annual fee for the
Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) from \$9 to
\$15.

Effective Date: June 29, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Veterinary Technician Scope of Practice

Summary

- Directs the Board to develop duties and supervision for veterinary technician tasks.
- Provides for some duties to be delegated under specific supervision levels.
- Creates a veterinary technician specialist designation.
- Grants title protection.

Effective Date: August 7, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Providing Veterinary Services Through Telehealth

Summary

- Requires a physical exam to establish a VCPR.
- Allows a veterinarian without a VCPR to prescribe a drug if another veterinarian had previously prescribed it.
- Defines teletriage, teleconsulting, telehealth, telemedicine etc.
- Defines veterinary specialist and authorizes their use of telemedicine.

Effective Date: August 7, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Attorney General Restrictive Employment Agreements

Summary

- The bill grants the attorney general rule-making authority over restrictive employment agreements. Current law allows an employer to recover the expense of educating and training a worker where the training is distinct from normal, on-the-job training. The bill regulates the recoverable expense as other consumer debt and student debt. The bill also adds the requirement that, for an employer to recover the expense, the training must comply with rules promulgated by the attorney general regarding the transferability of the training or credentialing that is available to the employee as a result of the training.
- This bill does not change any current TRAP laws, but clarifies the 2019 student loan act, which did affect TRAPs.
- Changes the definitions of consumer credit sale and consumer loan to include training repayments is so if collection were to occur, it wouldn't trash the employees credit.

Effective Date: August 7, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Require Notification of Disease Pet Care Facility

Summary

- Within 24 hours of receiving a notification from a licensed veterinarian or pet owner with documentation from a veterinarian, must make every reasonable attempt to notify all pet owners who used the facility during the reported outbreak and incubation period.
- Notification means a conspicuously posted notice on premise, a notice posted on pet facility website, or direct contact to pet owner.
- Pet facility includes pet animal day care, boarding, grooming, or training facilities.

Effective Date: June 3, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Modifications to Sterilization Requirements for Cats & Dogs

Summary

- If a licensed veterinarian declares in writing that a sterilization procedure could jeopardize the health of the dog or cat, the procedure may be delayed until such time that a veterinarian determines that the dog or cat is fit to undergo the sterilization procedure.
- The bill also prohibits any facilities that import unsterilized dogs or cats into Colorado from being exempt from the sterilization requirement.
- The act ensures that all adopted or purchased animals are sterilized unless a licensed veterinarian declares that the procedure could risk the animal's life or cause injury or illness.

Effective Date: August 7, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Prevention of Substance Use Disorders

Summary

- Removes gabapentin from prescription monitoring program reporting.
- Removes veterinarians from definition of prescriber for opioid dose restrictions, granting them an exemption.

Effective Date: 06/06/24

- <u>Bill Website</u>
- Bill Text

DC B25-0545

Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2023

Summary

• Requires all Health Occupational Boards to develop regulations for telehealth and allows for electronic establishment of a patient-client relationship. Was amended to allow Mayor to develop rules issuing additional requirements, including an initial inperson physical examination.

Effective Date: August 1, 2024** **Projected

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Florida H0303

Rabies Vaccinations

Summary

- Under indirect supervision of a veterinarian, an agent or contractor of a county or municipal animal control authority or sheriff may vaccinate against rabies. Includes: dogs, cats, and ferrets in their custody.
- Indirect supervision means the veterinarian is required to be available for consultation through telecommunications, not required to be physically present.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Florida H0849

Veterinary Practices

Summary

- Allows VCPR to be established electronically.
- Allows prescribing for up to one month solely for flea and tick control, and up to 14 days for other animal drugs (other than controlled substances). An in-person exam is required for renewals.
- Prescribing antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, or antiparasitic are prohibited.
- Allows animal control (end employees) and sheriffs to administer rabies vaccines to dogs, cats, and ferrets under indirect supervision of a veterinarian.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

FL H7073

Taxation

Summary

- Establishes tax holiday 06/01/24-06/14/24 and 08/24/24-09/06/24.
- Includes pet products for noncommercial use.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- <u>Bill Website</u>
- Bill Text

FL S0382

Continuing Education Requirements

Summary

- On May 17, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis signed SB 382 into law. SB 382 reduces regulatory burdens on Department of Business and Professional Regulation license holders by exempting certain licensees from continuing education requirements. Pursuant to SB 382, a licensee is exempt from continuing education requirements if they meet the following criteria:
- The licensee is licensed by one of the following Department of Business and Professional Regulation Boards, Councils, or Licensing Programs:

• • •

Board of Veterinary Medicine

- The licensee holds an active license.
- The licensee has held their license continuously for at least 10 years.
- No discipline has been imposed against the license.

All licensees who meet the above requirements will be exempted from their current continuing education requirements and will be able to verify their exemption status through their online account or by searching the Department's online licensing portal, at: https://www.myfloridalicense.com/wl11.asp?mode=0&SID.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Georgia SB410

Licensing of Veterinarians; certain sterilization services performed by out-of-state veterinarians from licensing requirements; exempt

Summary

 No later than December 31, 2024, the board shall adopt rules and regulations implementing a process by which the holder of an active veterinary license or veterinary technician license from another state, in good standing is such state, may qualify for a one-time, six-month temporary license, license by endorsement, or a combination thereof, for practice in government or nonprofit shelter medicine, nonprofit sterilization clinics, or nonprofit mobile sterilization programs registered with this state.

Effective Date: December 31, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Illinois HB4874

Control Sun-Opioids-Compliance

Summary

• A pharmacist may not refuse to fill a valid prescription solely because it is not prescribed electronically.

Effective Date: Upon Signature

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Indiana SB0009

Notice of Health Care Entity Mergers

Summary

• An Indiana health care entity that is involved in a merger or acquisition with another health care entity with total assets, including combined entities and holdings, of at least ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) shall, at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the merger or acquisition, provide written notice of the merger or acquisition to the office of the attorney general in a manner prescribed by the office of the attorney general.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Indiana SB0104

Veterinary Medicine

Summary

• This bill amends the Indiana Code related to veterinary medicine. It mandates that the state police must share any criminal history or activity of vets or vet techs with the board of veterinary medicine. It also requires vets and vet techs to disclose certain information when renewing their license or certificate electronically. This information must be compiled into an annual report by the board. Regarding controlled substances, the bill outlines criteria under which a vet is not required to get a controlled substance registration. Additionally, the bill allows vets and vet techs to renew their expired licenses or certificates even if more than three years have elapsed since their expiration. Finally, the bill details the information required when renewing a license or certificate and clarifies the conditions for renewal of an expired document.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Kentucky HB553

An Act Relating to the Kentucky Rural Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program and Making an Appropriation Therefor.

Summary

• Creates a student loan repayment program for a livestock practitioner who engages in veterinary medicine in an underserved rural area or in a veterinary shortage area in Kentucky for five (5) consecutive years.

Effective Date: April 10, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Louisiana HB716

Provides for Universal Recognition of Occupational Licenses

Summary

• This bill enacts the "Welcome Home Act" in Louisiana, which requires state licensing boards to issue occupational licenses or certifications to individuals who hold a valid license or certification from another state, as long as certain requirements are met. The key provisions include: requiring boards to issue licenses if the applicant holds a valid out-of-state license, has held it for at least a year, and meets other criteria; allowing boards to require passage of a jurisprudential exam specific to Louisiana laws; giving applicants the right to appeal a board's decision; and clarifying that the law does not apply to certain occupations like peace officers. The bill would allow for the issuance of licenses by endorsement, and would require the licensing board to provide a written decision on an application within 60 days.

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Louisiana SB60

Provides relative to occupational licenses

Summary

• This bill enacts the "Welcome Home Act" in Louisiana, which requires state licensing boards to issue occupational licenses or certifications to individuals who hold a valid license or certification from another state, as long as certain requirements are met. The key provisions include: requiring boards to issue licenses if the applicant holds a valid out-of-state license, has held it for at least a year, and meets other criteria; allowing boards to require passage of a jurisprudential exam specific to Louisiana laws; giving applicants the right to appeal a board's decision; and clarifying that the law does not apply to certain occupations like peace officers. The bill would allow for the issuance of licenses by endorsement, and would require the licensing board to provide a written decision on an application within 60 days.

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

More Information

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Executive Director's Note:

There were a couple of very key provisions of this bill that I believe are worth noting in the report in an effort to not misinform other jurisdictions.

Firstly, the more important point to note is that this bill states that the LBVM shall issue a conditional license or certificate pending normal licensure. Therefore, while a candidate may be issued a license if the specific criteria are met and supporting documentation is received, it will only be valid until the candidate fulfills all normal licensure requirements. The Board is in the process of rulemaking to change the lifespan of our applications from two years to one year. Effectively, if a candidate meets all of the conditional licensure requirements and is issued a license, the license will only be valid for one year at which time the candidate must have completed all normal licensure requirements or the conditional licensure is immediately expired and invalid.

Secondly, one of the key criteria for licensure eligibility under this bill is tied to Louisiana residency. To qualify for the conditional licensure under this bill, one must provide to the Board proof of Louisiana residency in the form of Louisiana identification or a promise of Louisiana employment provided to the Board from the candidate's prospective employer in Louisiana.

Louisiana SB276

Creates the crime of coerced criminal abortion by means of fraud to prohibit a third-party from knowingly using an abortion-inducing drug to cause, or attempt to cause, an abortion on an unsuspecting pregnant mother without her knowledge or consent and amends various abortion criminal laws to add the crime of attempted abortion.

Summary

 The bill adds mifepristone and misoprostol, two common abortion-inducing drugs, to Schedule IV of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law, with an exception for pregnant women to possess them for their own use. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy and the Louisiana Department of Health to notify relevant parties about the provisions of this law.

AAVSB Staff Note

• This bill was included in this report because misoprostol is a commonly-prescribed veterinary drug.

Effective Date: October 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Maryland HB1388

Labor and Employment – Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses for Veterinary and Health Care Professionals and Study of the Health Care Market

Summary

- Adds health professions, including veterinarians and veterinary technicians to existing prohibition on noncompete agreements for low-wage earners.
- For employment contracts concerning positions requiring a license under the health occupations article, providing direct patient care, and paying more than \$350,000 in annual compensation, any noncompete or conflict of issues clauses must be limited to one year and cannot span more than 10 miles from the person's primary place of employment. In these cases, employers must provide notice to patients regarding the new location if a previous employee is practicing there.

Effective Date: June 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Maryland HB647

Property and Casualty Insurances – Pet Insurance – Regulation

Summary

• Establishes requirements and prohibitions for pet insurance policies that are issued to a resident of the State, or are sold, solicited, negotiated, or offered in the State, including disclosure requirements and requirements and prohibitions related to wellness programs; and requiring the Maryland Insurance Administration, on or before June 1, 2025, to develop informational material about pet insurance policies that may be disseminated to and posted by veterinary practitioners.

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Maryland HB1097

State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners – Veterinary Technicians and Veterinary Assistants.

Summary

- Defines immediate, direct, and indirect supervision.
- Defines veterinary assistant and provides duties under direct supervision.
- Removes "registered" from veterinary technician and allows use of "nurse".
 Provides duties under direct supervision and in emergency situations.
- Allows assistants and technicians broader authority under discretion of veterinarian.
- Allows veterinary technicians to euthanize at shelters.

Effective Date: October 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Minnesota HF5247

The Dr. Elton Mac Huddleston Rural Veterinarians Scholarship Program; establish

Summary

- Establishes licensing requirements for veterinary technicians. Defines direct supervision, remote supervision, and veterinary technology. Veterinary technology does not include veterinary diagnosis, prognosis, surgery, or medication prescription.
- An unlicensed veterinary employee may only administer medication or render auxiliary or supporting assistance under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician.
- Grandfathering: The board shall consider an application for licensure submitted by a person before July 1, 2031, if the person provides evidence satisfactory to the board that the person: (1) is a certified veterinary technician in good standing with the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association; or (2) has at least 4,160 hours actively engaged in the practice of veterinary technology within the previous five years.
- Provides for reciprocity
- Funds the Veterinary Board.
- Creates an institutional license for university veterinarians, repeals the faculty license

Effective Date: May 24, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Mississippi HB1210

The Dr. Elton Mac Huddleston Rural Veterinarians Scholarship Program; establish

Summary

- Establishes the Dr. Elton Mac Huddleston Rural Veterinarian Scholarship Program at the Mississippi State University to provide scholarships to assist residents of the state of Mississippi in pursuing degrees in veterinary medicine.
- Applies to those who enter into a program to provide full-time services as a food supply animal veterinarian in a rural practice for four years.
- Priority is given to residents.

Effective Date: July 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Oklahoma SB620

Professional Entity Act; modifying requirements for persons holding interest in domestic professional entity; prohibiting certain persons from holding shares in certain professional corporations. Effective date.

Summary

Clarifies and updates the Professional Entity Act. There are no substantial changes
to the existing requirements for professional entities. In Oklahoma, owners and
managers of a professional entity must be duly licensed to render certain services.
No person shall be a shareholder of a professional corporation who is not duly
licensed or otherwise permitted to render the same professional services or related
professional services as the services for which the corporation is organized.

Effective Date: November 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Oregon HB4010

Relating to health care; prescribing an effective date

Summary

• The addition of flavoring to a drug intended for dispensation may not be considered compounding if the flavoring: (1) is inert, nonallergenic and has no effect other than imparting a flavor to the drug or modifying the flavor of the drug; and (2) does not constitute more than five percent of the total volume of the drug.

Effective Date: June 06, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Pennsylvania HB979

In domestic animals, providing for posted notice with information on dangerous transmissible diseases.

Summary

- The department may require a dealer, agent or person that offers a domestic animal, commercial feed or pet food for sale to the public to provide a posted notice on the premises with information on a dangerous transmissible disease.
- Title 3, where this <u>statute will be house does define dangerous transmissible disease</u> and lists 40 items, though allows for additional designations and temporary orders.

Effective Date: May 8, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Rhode Island H7446

Substitutes the current lists of controlled substances in the general laws with the current version of title 21 of the code of federal regulations.

Summary

• This act would substitute the current lists of controlled substances in the general laws with the current version of Title 21 of the code of federal regulations.

Effective Date: February 1, 2025

- <u>Bill Website</u>
- Bill Text

South Carolina H3592

Compounding Pharmacies

Summary

- Any person or entity authorized to dispense drugs including, but not limited to, a
 pharmacy, institutional pharmacy, or practitioner, may: (1) purchase or otherwise
 acquire drugs compounded or repackaged by an outsourcing facility directly from
 the outsourcing facility without an order from a practitioner other than, when
 applicable, the practitioner purchasing or acquiring the drug; and (2) administer and
 dispense drugs purchased or acquired pursuant to item (1) to the same extent as
 drugs acquired through other authorized means.
- Requires the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations for outsourcing facilities.

Effective Date: 05/13/24

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Utah HB0145

Veterinary Amendments

Summary

• Allows a veterinary technician to carry out delegated tasks from a veterinarian under direct or indirect supervision.

Effective Date: May 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Utah HB0260

Controlled Substances Amendment

Summary

• Adds gabapentin to Schedule V of the list of controlled substances. Previously was categorized as a drug of concern.

Effective Date: May 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Utah HB0312

Professional Licensing Amendment

Summary

- Removes veterinarian referral for animal massage (the same action was taken for animal chiropractors last session).
- Removes licensure requirement but maintains required 60 hours of training.

Effective Date: May 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Utah HB0522

Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program Amendments

Summary

- Allows for annual distribution of funds.
- Removes 5-year practice requirement.
- Removes requirement to serve in a shortage area.
- Adds practice that includes 30% livestock to those that qualify for funds.

Effective Date: May 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Vermont H0626

An Act Relating to Animal Welfare

Summary

• This bill proposes to establish the Division of Animal Welfare at the Department of Public Safety to develop, implement, and administer a centralized program for investigating and enforcing animal welfare requirements in the State. The bill would also amend or establish standards for the operation of animal shelters and animal rescue organizations, as well as requirements for the importation or transportation of animals into the State. The bill would create an Animal Welfare Fund, funded partly by a \$3 surcharge on dog and wolf-hybrid licenses, to support the Division's activities. The bill also expands the definition of "humane officer" to include Division of Animal Welfare employees and municipal or state law enforcement agency animal control officers who have received animal cruelty response training.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024 (multiple dates)

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Virginia HB848

Veterinary Medicine; traineeships

Summary

The Board may provide for the limited practice of veterinary medicine, as that term is
defined by the Board, by a veterinary medicine licensure applicant enrolled in a
traineeship program under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The bill
directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Effective Date: Board must take action by January 27, 2025

More Information

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Virginia HB1354

Cats; Prohibition on Declawing

Summary

• It is unlawful to perform a declawing procedure on a cat, except that a person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine may perform such a procedure if it is necessary for a therapeutic purpose.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Virginia SB412

Rabies Clinics; animal vaccination and microchip services

Summary

• Rabies clinics approved by the appropriate local health department and governing body may offer microchipping and additional animal health vaccines at the discretion of the licensed veterinarian or veterinarians participating in the clinic.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Virginia SB663

Veterinary Medicine, Board of; Powers and Duties, Satellite Offices

Summary

• Requires the Board of Veterinary Medicine to regulate, inspect, and register all satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced.

Effective Date: Board must take action by January 30, 2025

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Virginia HJR43/SJR15

Veterinary Medicine, Board of; Powers and Duties, Satellite Offices

Summary

Requesting the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to study the shortage of large animal veterinarians. In conducting the study, the Board of Veterinary Medicine and the State Veterinarian shall (i) identify ways to strengthen existing debt repayment programs for veterinarians, including making recommendations on how to simplify application criteria, exploring state matching loan repayment programs, limiting barriers for participation, and improving methods for consistent identification of veterinary shortage areas to better target rural communities in need; (ii) examine options for developing programs that offer business support to provide incentives or low-interest business loans for large animal private practices; (iii) identify programs that support a strong pipeline of veterinary students from rural backgrounds and help such students navigate post-secondary education to increase retention; (iv) examine other possible solutions for increasing the number of large animal veterinarians in the Commonwealth, such as expanding veterinary technician-type or physician assistant-type programs to allow large animal veterinarians to expand their scope of practice in rural areas

Effective Date: Board must submit findings by November 30, 2025.

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Washington HB1889

Allowing Persons to Receive Professional Licenses and Certifications Regardless of Immigration or Citizenship Status

Summary

• A state agency or regulatory authority shall not deny an application for a professional license, commercial license, certificate, permit, or registration solely on the basis of a person's immigration or citizenship status if the person has met all other qualifications.

Effective Date: July 01, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Passed and Royal Assent Received

(Canada)

Ontario Bill 171

Enhancing Professional Care for Animals Act, 2024

Summary

- The *Veterinarians Act* is repealed and replaced with the *Veterinary Professionals Act*, 2024. The following are highlights from the *Veterinary Professionals Act*, 2024
- Part I provides for how terms used in the Act are to be interpreted.
- Part II deals with the governance of the College of Veterinary Professionals of Ontario. In this Part, the objectives of the College are established. Rules respecting the Council and committees of the College are also set out.
- Part III sets out the rules respecting authorized activities and provides limits on who
 can carry out authorized activities and the circumstances in which they can be
 carried out. This Part also deals with reasonably foreseeable serious bodily harm to
 animals or persons resulting from treatment, advice, and omission from treatment
 or advice. Finally, this Part sets out the persons who may use certain restricted titles
 and the circumstances in which such titles can be used.
- Part IV deals with licensing of members of the College, including rules respecting applications for, terminations of, and hearings respecting licenses. The Part also deals with accreditation of veterinary facilities and the process and rules respecting certificates of accreditation.
- Part V deals with the College's Executive Committee.
- Part VI provides for a quality assurance program to be established by the regulations which will aim, amongst other objects, to assure the quality of the practice of members of the College.
- Part VII sets out requirements for certain persons to report certain things to the Registrar of the College. The Part also sets out the process for making, investigating, and addressing complaints against members and former members of the College.
- Part VIII deals with investigations and resolutions. The powers and duties of the College's Investigations and Resolutions Committee in considering and investigating the conduct of members and former members of the College are set out.
- Part IX provides for addressing professional misconduct, incompetence, and impairment to fitness to practice. The powers and duties of the College's Discipline and Fitness to Practise Committee are set out with respect to such matters.
- Part X deals with appealing decisions or orders of certain committees of the College or the Board to the Divisional Court.
- Part XI provides the process and rules for persons to apply for a certificate of authorization to establish a professional corporation for the purpose of practicing veterinary medicine. Rules respecting such professional corporations are also set out.
- Part XII deals with contravention or failure to comply with the Act or the regulations. Two categories of offenses are established.

- Part XIII sets out the powers of the Minister and Lieutenant Governor in Council with respect to the College.
- Part XIV deals with assorted administrative and miscellaneous matters.
- Part XV deals with regulations made by the Council of the College, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, by the Minister, and by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. This Part also deals with the Council of the College's by-laws and standards for veterinary facilities and the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Part XVI deals with transitional matters.
- Part XVII sets out amendments to the *Veterinary Professionals Act, 2024*, and consequential amendments to other Acts.

Effective Date: June 06, 2024

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

The following bills have not yet been signed by the Governor and could be vetoed.

Delaware SB251

An Act To Amend Title 14 Of The Delaware Code Relating To The Delaware Institute Of Veterinary Medical Education And The Delaware Veterinarian Medicine Education Advisory Council.

Not yet signed by Governor as of 08/16/2024

Summary

• This bill repeals the existing Delaware Institute of Veterinary Medical Education (DIVME) and establishes the Delaware Veterinary Medicine Education Advisory Council. The Advisory Council will be responsible for researching and making recommendations to increase veterinary medicine education and opportunities in Delaware, including developing recruitment programs, monitoring veterinary schools serving Delaware residents, and supporting provider recruitment efforts. The Advisory Council will be composed of 13 members representing various stakeholders, such as veterinary practitioners, university faculty, and state agencies. The bill also requires the Advisory Council to submit annual reports with recommendations to encourage veterinary graduates to practice in Delaware.

Effective Date: Upon Signature

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

The following bills have been vetoed by the Governor.

New Hampshire HB1233

Relative to Animal Chiropractors.

Vetoed by Governor

Summary

This bill provides that individuals who have completed a nationally recognized animal chiropractic program are exempt from veterinary licensure requirements. The program completed by these individuals is determined by the executive director of the office of professional licensure and certification, following consultation with the board of veterinary medicine and the board of chiropractic examiners. The bill amends the New Hampshire Veterinary Practice Act accordingly. The bill will become effective 60 days after passage.

Effective Date: 30 days after passage

- Bill Website
- Bill Text

Rhode Island H8059/S2436

Prohibits noncompete agreements except for noncompete agreements between a seller and buyer of a business; creates civil action for an employer for the violation of an agreement by employee regarding disclosure or wrongful utilization of trade secrets.

Vetoed by Governor

Summary

This bill prohibits noncompete agreements except for those made in connection
with the sale of a business. It also creates a civil action for an employer against an
employee who violates an agreement to not disclose or wrongfully use trade
secrets, customer lists, or future business plans. The bill defines key terms like
"noncompetition agreement," "trade secret," and "employee." It also provides
exceptions to the noncompete ban, such as for nondisclosure or confidentiality
agreements.

Effective Date: Upon Passage

- Bill Website
- Bill Text