



Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine

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Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 156 establishes the regulatory structure for veterinary medicine, including licensing, drug control, facility oversight, and discipline.

HF 3718 modernizes the regulatory framework to reflect current veterinary practice by expanding definitions, updating licensing systems, formalizing telemedicine, and adding new regulatory categories. Additionally, the bill adds necessary statutory language to regulate veterinary technicians, who will be licensed beginning July 1st.

Key Changes in the Bill

1. Definitions

The bill updates statutory definitions, adding key terms such as client, consent, emergency stabilization, telemedicine, telerriage, physical rehabilitation, veterinary specialist, and veterinary technologist.

Expands “animal” to include all nonhuman organisms.

2. Board Composition

Current law: 7-member board (5 veterinarians, 2 public members)

Bill: 9-member board, adding:

- 1 licensed veterinary technician seat
- 1 additional veterinarian or technician (flex seat)

3. Licensing Modernization

- Updates application and credentialing requirements for veterinarians and technicians, with additional documentation options and alignment with national pathway (NAVLE, ECFVG, and PAVE) processes
- Revises reciprocity and reinstatement processes
- Establishes requirements for veterinary technicians for continuing education, recordkeeping, humane care, and pharmaceutical handling

4. Scope of Practice Updates

- Amends the definition of veterinary practice to include behavioral and dental care, complementary/integrative therapies (acupuncture, chiropractic-type modalities, homeopathy)
- Authorizes telemedicine, requiring a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) except for emergency stabilization and telerriage situations
- Updates reproductive procedures and treatment categories

5. Delegation to Veterinary Technicians and Unlicensed Personnel

Current law allows limited duties under direct supervision. This bill:

- Clarifies remote supervision authority
- Provides broader permission for livestock management tasks
- Establishes disciplinary grounds specific to technicians
- Adds technician recordkeeping requirements

7. Drug and Prescription Regulation

The bill updates veterinary drug definitions and processes to align with federal law:

- Revised definitions for prescription drugs, dispensing, extra-label use, and food-producing animals.
- Adds requirements for labels, including pharmacy information
- New sections on Veterinary Feed Directives and drug donation programs with safety restrictions.
- Repeals outdated drug-related provisions

8. Repealers

Repeals outdated provisions and consolidates statutory language