

**Subject** Veterinary prescription monitoring program

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## Overview

This bill establishes a prescription monitoring program for veterinary practices. The program is modeled on the prescription monitoring program under Minnesota Statutes, section 152.126.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b>Approved microchip.</b> Adds a definition of “approved microchip” to the statutes that address veterinary prescription drugs. The term means an implantable microchip approved by the board and capable of storing a scannable and unique animal identification number.
2	<b>Controlled substances.</b> Adds a definition of “controlled substances” to the statutes that address veterinary prescription drugs. The term is consistent with the definition in section 152.126.
3	<b>Reportable prescription.</b> Adds a definition of “reportable prescription” to the statutes that address veterinary prescription drugs. The term means a prescription or other authorization for a controlled substance that is intended to be taken for more than seven days.
4	<b>Prescription.</b> Adds the requirement that a veterinarian or authorized employee must comply with the reporting requirements established in a new section of law when dispensing veterinary prescription drugs. Prohibits dispensing a controlled substance that is intended to be taken for more than seven days to a patient that does not possess an implanted, approved microchip.
5	<b>Controlled substance prescription monitoring.</b> <b>Subd. 1. Treatment of pain.</b> Permits veterinarians to prescribe controlled substances for the legitimate treatment of pain.

Section	Description
	<p><b>Subd. 2. Electronic reporting system.</b> Requires the board to establish an electronic system for reporting information by January 1, 2020. Permits the board to contract with a vendor.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 3. Reporting requirements; notice.</b> Requires a prescribing veterinarian to submit specific information within 72 hours of prescribing a reportable prescription. The requirement takes effect July 1, 2021. Submissions must be in an approved format and prescribing veterinarians must provide clients with conspicuous notice of the reporting requirement.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 4. Database; use of data by board.</b> Requires the board to develop and maintain a database of information reported under subdivision 3. The database must maintain data that could identify an individual veterinarian in encrypted form and must be able to be used by permissible users to identify patients receiving certain prescriptions. Prohibits use of the database to identify or discipline specific veterinarians.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 5. Access to reporting system data.</b> Classifies data as private data on individuals or nonpublic data. Identifies permissible users which include veterinarians, board personnel, authorized personnel of a vendor under contract, and law enforcement acting with a valid search warrant. Permits the board to participate in an interstate monitoring program as allowed under this section.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 6. Disciplinary action.</b> Makes a veterinarian who knowingly fails to submit data to the database as required under this section or who discloses data in violation of state or federal law subject to disciplinary action by the board.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 7. Registration required.</b> Requires every veterinarian who prescribes controlled substances to register and maintain a program user account with the database. Data submitted by the veterinarian, other than the name, license number, and license type are classified as private data.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 8. Immunity from liability; no requirement to obtain information.</b> A prescribing veterinarian making a report to the database in good faith is immune from criminal, civil, or administrative liability. Veterinarians are not required to obtain information about a patient from the program and veterinarians acting in good faith are immune from liability for requesting, receiving, or using information from the program.</p>
	<p><b>Subd. 9. Nonstate funding; appropriation.</b> Permits the board to seek grants and private funds to enhance and support the ongoing operation of the monitoring program. Appropriates those funds to the board for that purpose. Requires the board to seek legislative approval for enhancements that conflict with the new section of law.</p>

Section	Description
6	<p><b>Effective date.</b> Makes sections 1 through 5 effective August 1, 2019, and applies them to controlled substances prescribed by veterinarians on or after July 1, 2021.</p>



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