MN HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

H.F. 3718

First Engrossment

Subject	Veterinary medicine and veterinary technology
Authors	Anderson, P. H. and Hansen, R.
Analyst	Megan Mullenbach
Date	April 7, 2026

Overview

This bill makes a number of changes to chapter 156 that regulates the Board of Veterinary Medicine, veterinarians, and veterinary technicians.

This bill would be effective August 1, 2026, unless otherwise stated.

Summary

Section	Description
1	**Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.** Modifies the definition of "accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine" to add "school."
2	**Accredited program of veterinary technology.** Adds a new definition of "accredited program of veterinary technology."
3	**Animal.** Modifies the definition of "animal."
4	**Client.** Adds a new definition of "client." Replaces and modifies the current definition of "client" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
5	**Compensation.** Modifies the definition of "compensation" to add remunerations.
6	**Consent.** Adds a new definition of "consent."
7	**Consulting.** Adds a new definition of "consulting."

Section	Description
8	**Dispensing.** Adds a new definition of "dispensing." Replacing and modifying the current definition of "dispensing" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
9	**Donor.** Adds a new definition of "donor."
10	**Emergency stabilization.** Adds a new definition of "emergency stabilization."
11	**Extra-label use.** Adds a new definition of "extra-label use." Replaces the current definition of "extra-label use" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
12	**Licensed veterinary technician or veterinary technician.** Modifies the definition of "licensed veterinary technician" to add "veterinary technician," so that any reference to a "veterinary technician" means a person licensed by the board. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
13	**Licensed veterinarian.** Adds a new definition of "licensed veterinarian."
14	**Licensee.** Modifies the definition of "licensee" to add veterinary technology.
15	**Patient.** Adds a new definition of "patient." Replaces and modifies the current definition of "patient" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
16	**Person.** Adds a new definition of "person." Replaces and modifies the current definition of "person" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
17	**Physical rehabilitation.** Adds a new definition of "physical rehabilitation."

Section	Description
18	**Remote supervision.** Modifies the definition of "remote supervision."
19	**Surgery.** Adds a new definition of "surgery."
20	**Telemedicine.** Adds a new definition of "telemedicine."
21	**Teletriage.** Adds a new definition of "teletriage."
22	**Veterinarian.** Adds a new definition of "veterinarian." Replaces and modifies the current definition of "veterinarian" repealed in section 63 that applies to only the veterinary prescription drugs sections.
23	**Veterinarian-client-patient relationship.** Adds a new definition of "veterinarian-client-patient relationship."
24	**Veterinary medical facility.** Adds a new definition of "veterinary medical facility."
25	**Veterinary specialist.** Adds a new definition of "veterinary specialist."
26	**Veterinary Technician National Exam.** Adds a new definition of "Veterinary Technician National Exam."
27	**Veterinary technician specialist.** Adds a new definition of "veterinary technician specialist."
28	**Veterinary technologist.** Adds a new definition of "veterinary technologist."
29	**Creation; membership.** Expands the Board of Veterinary Medicine by adding two new board members: one veterinary technician and one veterinarian or veterinary technician.

Section	Description
30	**Officers.** Strikes board duties and authority to move to a separate subdivision.
31	**Duties and authority of the board.** Clarifies the board's duties and authority in a separate subdivision.
32	**License verification.** Makes technical changes.
33	**License application.** Makes technical changes.
34	**Required with application.** Updates the materials veterinary medicine license applicants must submit. Strikes an affidavit requirement.
35	**Examination; payment.** Updates language used to refer to veterinary medicine exams.
36	**Board to issue license.** Makes technical changes.
37	**License.** Requires any licensed person to produce a copy of the license to the board upon request.
38	**License recorded.** Makes technical changes.
39	**License renewal.** Removes requirement for veterinary medicine and technicians to display license in place of business.
40	**Reinstatement of expired license.** Makes technical and conforming changes.
41	**Application.** Makes conforming changes.

Section	Description
42	**Required with application.** Updates the materials nonresident veterinary medicine license applicants must submit, including submitting proof of a passing score for the Minnesota Veterinarian Jurisprudence Exam and a completed criminal background check. Strikes an affidavit requirement.
43	**Direct supervision; unlicensed veterinary employees.** Allows unlicensed veterinary employees to perform commonly accepted livestock management practices under remote supervision.
44	**Required with application.** Strikes an affidavit requirement for veterinary technician license applicants.
45	**Pharmaceutical services.** Establishes pharmaceutical services standards for veterinary technicians. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
46	**Record keeping.** Establishes record keeping requirements for veterinary technicians. Requires the release of records upon request by patient's owner or the board. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
47	**Humane care.** Requires veterinary technicians to treat animals with the prevailing humane treatment standards and care. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
48	**Continuing education.** Requires veterinary technicians to complete 16 hours of continuing education credits each licensing period. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
49	**Nonresidents; licensed veterinary technicians.** Modifies nonresident veterinary technician application requirements, including requiring applicant's out of state license and striking the affidavit requirement.

Section	Description
50	**Revocation; suspension.** Expands the board's authority under section 156.081 to revoke and suspend veterinary technicians' licenses. Adds additional grounds for license revocation and suspension for veterinary technicians. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
51	**Practice.** Redefines the practice of veterinary medicine. Defines veterinarian-client-patient relationship.
52	**Authorized activities.** Modifies the list of activities the veterinary medicine does not prohibit.
53	**Facility inspection.** Moves requirements that licensed veterinarians allow the board's representatives to enter premises, inspect the facility and the books, and collect samples to this section.
54	**Food-producing animal.** Modifies definition of "food-producing animals" to include animals raised for producing food products or byproducts for food.
55	**Veterinarian-client-patient relationship.** Specifies that the veterinarian-client-patient relationship only exists if the patient has been visited or examined at least once every 12 months.
56	**Veterinary prescription drugs.** Modifies definition of "veterinary prescription drugs."
57	**Prescription.** Allows a licensed veterinarian to dispense veterinary prescription drugs without a veterinarian-client-patient relationship under certain conditions.
58	**Label of dispensed veterinary drugs.** Requires information accompanying veterinary drugs to include the name and address of the dispensing pharmacy. If the drug is in the manufacturer's original packaging, requires that only the manufacturer or a licensed pharmacist affix the label.

Section	Description
59	**Record keeping.** Allows for record keeping variance if state law contradicts with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.
60	**Extra-label use.** Allows veterinarians to prescribe a use of a drug not in accordance with the drug's instructions if the veterinarian considers the time for withdrawal from the drug and the prevention of illegal drug residues in a food-producing animal.
61	**Veterinary feed directives; veterinary feed directive drugs.** Creates new definitions for "veterinary feed directives" and "veterinary feed directive drugs." Requires veterinarians to comply with the federal Animal Drug Availability Act of 1996 regulations.
62	**Drug donation for use by animals.** Allows for the donation of unused veterinary drugs under certain circumstances if the accepting veterinary medical facility does not resell the drugs and instead reissues the drugs at no charge to a veterinary medical facility in need, an animal shelter, or a pound.
63	**Repealer.** Repeals definitions of "operation," "client," "dispensing," "extra-label use," "patient," "person," and "veterinarian." Repeals sections on nominating appointees to the board, testing of individuals otherwise unqualified for veterinary medicine license, testing of nonpracticing nonresident licensees, temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine, and inspection and sampling.

MN HOUSE RESEARCH

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn.gov/hrd | 651-296-6753 | Third Floor, Centennial Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155