

1           AN ACT concerning regulation.

2           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3           **represented in the General Assembly:**

4           Section 5. The Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice  
5           Act of 2004 is amended by changing Sections 3 and 8.1 and by  
6           adding Section 29 as follows:

7           (225 ILCS 115/3) (from Ch. 111, par. 7003)

8           (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2029)

9           Sec. 3. Definitions. The following terms have the meanings  
10          indicated, unless the context requires otherwise:

11          "Accredited college of veterinary medicine" means a  
12          veterinary college, school, or division of a university or  
13          college that offers the degree of Doctor of Veterinary  
14          Medicine or its equivalent and that is accredited by the  
15          Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical  
16          Association (AVMA).

17          "Address of record" means the designated address recorded  
18          by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's application  
19          file or license file as maintained by the Department's  
20          licensure maintenance unit.

21          "Accredited program in veterinary technology" means any  
22          post-secondary educational program that is accredited by the  
23          AVMA's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and

1 Activities or any veterinary technician program that is  
2 recognized as its equivalent by the AVMA's Committee on  
3 Veterinary Technician Education and Activities.

4 "Animal" means any animal, vertebrate or invertebrate,  
5 other than a human.

6 "Board" means the Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary  
7 Board.

8 "Certified veterinary technician" or "veterinary  
9 technician" means a person who is a graduate of a veterinary  
10 technician program accredited by the AVMA's Committee on  
11 Veterinary Technician Education and Activities and who has  
12 successfully passed the Veterinary Technician National  
13 Examination approved by the Board. The title "certified  
14 veterinary technician", "veterinary technician", "vet tech",  
15 or "technician" and the initials "CVT" or "VT" may only be used  
16 by persons certified by the Department. "Certified veterinary  
17 technician" means a person who is validly and currently  
18 licensed to practice veterinary technology in this State.

19 "Client" means an entity, person, group, or corporation  
20 that has entered into an agreement with a veterinarian for the  
21 purposes of obtaining veterinary medical services.

22 "Complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies"  
23 means a heterogeneous group of diagnostic and therapeutic  
24 philosophies and practices, which at the time they are  
25 performed may differ from current scientific knowledge, or  
26 whose theoretical basis and techniques may diverge from

veterinary medicine routinely taught in accredited veterinary medical colleges, or both. "Complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies" includes ~~include~~, but is ~~are~~ not limited to, veterinary acupuncture, acutherapy, and acupressure; veterinary homeopathy; veterinary manual or manipulative therapy or therapy based on techniques practiced in osteopathy, chiropractic medicine, or physical medicine and therapy; veterinary nutraceutical therapy; veterinary phytotherapy; and other therapies as defined by rule.

"Consultation" means when a veterinarian receives advice in person, telephonically, electronically, or by any other method of communication from a veterinarian licensed in this or any other state or other person whose expertise, in the opinion of the veterinarian, would benefit a patient. Under any circumstance, the responsibility for the welfare of the patient remains with the veterinarian receiving consultation.

"Department" means the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

"Direct supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is readily available on the premises where the animal is being treated.

"Email address of record" means the designated email address recorded by the Department in the applicant's application file or the licensee's license file, as maintained by the Department's licensure maintenance unit.

"Immediate supervision" means the supervising veterinarian

1 is in the immediate area, within audible and visual range of  
2 the patient and the person treating the patient.

3 "Impaired veterinarian" means a veterinarian who is unable  
4 to practice veterinary medicine with reasonable skill and  
5 safety because of a physical or mental disability as evidenced  
6 by a written determination or written consent based on  
7 clinical evidence, including deterioration through the aging  
8 process, loss of motor skills, or abuse of drugs or alcohol of  
9 sufficient degree to diminish a person's ability to deliver  
10 competent patient care.

11 "Indirect supervision" means the supervising veterinarian  
12 need not be on the premises, but has given either written or  
13 oral instructions for the treatment of the animal and is  
14 available by telephone or other form of communication.

15 "Licensed veterinarian" means a person who is validly and  
16 currently licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this  
17 State.

18 "Patient" means an animal or group of animals that is  
19 examined or treated by a veterinarian.

20 "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership (general,  
21 limited, or limited liability), association, joint venture,  
22 cooperative, corporation, limited liability company, or any  
23 other group or combination acting in concert, whether or not  
24 acting as a principal, partner, member, trustee, fiduciary,  
25 receiver, or any other kind of legal or personal  
26 representative, or as the successor in interest, assignee,

1 agent, factor, servant, employee, director, officer, or any  
2 other representative of such person.

3 "Practice of veterinary medicine" means to diagnose,  
4 prognose, treat, correct, change, alleviate, or prevent animal  
5 disease, illness, pain, deformity, defect, injury, or other  
6 physical, dental, or mental conditions by any method or mode,  
7 such as telemedicine, including the performance of one or more  
8 of the following:

9 (1) Prescribing, dispensing, administering, applying,  
10 or ordering the administration of any drug, medicine,  
11 biologic, apparatus, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or  
12 diagnostic substance, or medical or surgical technique.

13 (2) (Blank).

14 (3) Performing upon an animal a surgical or dental  
15 operation.

16 (3.5) Performing upon an animal complementary,  
17 alternative, or integrative therapy.

18 (4) Performing upon an animal any manual or mechanical  
19 procedure for reproductive management, including the  
20 diagnosis or treatment of pregnancy, sterility, or  
21 infertility.

22 (4.5) The rendering of advice or recommendation by any  
23 means, including telephonic and other electronic  
24 communications, with regard to the performing upon an  
25 animal any manual or mechanical procedure for reproductive  
26 management, including the diagnosis or treatment of

1                   pregnancy, sterility, or infertility.

2                   (5) Determining the health and fitness of an animal.

3                   (6) Representing oneself, directly or indirectly, as  
4                   engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine.

5                   (7) Using any word, letters, or title under such  
6                   circumstances as to induce the belief that the person  
7                   using them is qualified to engage in the practice of  
8                   veterinary medicine or any of its branches. Such use shall  
9                   be *prima facie* evidence of the intention to represent  
10                  oneself as engaging in the practice of veterinary  
11                  medicine.

12                  "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
13                  Professional Regulation.

14                  "Supervising veterinarian" means a veterinarian who  
15                  assumes responsibility for the professional care given to an  
16                  animal by a person working under his or her direction in either  
17                  an immediate, direct, or indirect supervision arrangement. The  
18                  supervising veterinarian must have examined the animal at such  
19                  time as acceptable veterinary medical practices require  
20                  requires, consistent with the particular delegated animal  
21                  health care task.

22                  "Therapeutic" means the treatment, control, and prevention  
23                  of disease.

24                  "Veterinarian" means a person who is validly and currently  
25                  licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this State.

26                  "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that all

1 of the following conditions have been met:

2 (1) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility  
3 for making clinical judgments regarding the health of an  
4 animal and the need for medical treatment and the client,  
5 owner, or other caretaker has agreed to follow the  
6 instructions of the veterinarian;

7 (2) There is sufficient knowledge of an animal by the  
8 veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary  
9 diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This  
10 means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is  
11 personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the  
12 animal by virtue of an in-person examination of the animal  
13 or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the  
14 premises where the animal is kept, or the veterinarian has  
15 access to the patient's records and has been designated by  
16 the veterinarian with the prior relationship to provide  
17 reasonable and appropriate medical care if the  
18 veterinarian with the prior relationship is unavailable;  
19 and

20 (3) The practicing veterinarian is readily available  
21 for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of  
22 the treatment regimen or, if unavailable, has designated  
23 another available veterinarian who has access to the  
24 patient's records to provide reasonable and appropriate  
25 medical care.

26 "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" does not mean a

1 relationship solely based on telephonic or other electronic  
2 communications.

3 "Veterinary medicine" means all branches and specialties  
4 included within the practice of veterinary medicine.

5 "Veterinary premises" means any premises or facility where  
6 the practice of veterinary medicine occurs, including, but not  
7 limited to, a mobile clinic, outpatient clinic, satellite  
8 clinic, or veterinary hospital or clinic. "Veterinary  
9 premises" does not mean the premises of a veterinary client,  
10 research facility, a federal military base, or an accredited  
11 college of veterinary medicine.

12 "Veterinary prescription drugs" means those drugs  
13 restricted to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian  
14 in accordance with Section 503(f) of the Federal Food, Drug,  
15 and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 353).

16 "Veterinary specialist" means a veterinarian: (1) who has  
17 been awarded and maintains certification from a veterinary  
18 specialty organization recognized by the American Board of  
19 Veterinary Specialties; (2) who has been awarded and maintains  
20 certification from a veterinary certifying organization whose  
21 standards have been found by the Board to be equivalent to or  
22 more stringent than those of American Board of Veterinary  
23 Specialties-recognized veterinary specialty organizations; or  
24 (3) who otherwise meets criteria that may be established by  
25 the Board to support a claim to be a veterinary specialist.

26 "Veterinary technology" means the performance of services

1 within the field of veterinary medicine by a person who, for  
2 compensation or personal profit, is employed by a licensed  
3 veterinarian to perform duties that require an understanding  
4 of veterinary medicine necessary to carry out the orders of  
5 the veterinarian pursuant to 68 Ill. Adm. Code 1500.48 and 68  
6 Ill. Adm. Code 1500.60. Those services, however, shall not  
7 include diagnosing, prognosing, prescribing, or surgery.

8 (Source: P.A. 103-309, eff. 1-1-24; 103-505, eff. 1-1-24;  
9 revised 8-6-24.)

10 (225 ILCS 115/8.1) (from Ch. 111, par. 7008.1)

11 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2029)

12 Sec. 8.1. Certified veterinary technician. A person who is  
13 a certified veterinary technician who performs veterinary  
14 technology contrary to this Act is guilty of a Class A  
15 misdemeanor and shall be subject to the revocation of his or  
16 her certificate. However, these penalties and restrictions  
17 shall not apply to a student while performing activities  
18 required as a part of his or her training.

19 The Department and the Board are authorized to hold  
20 hearings, reprimand, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or  
21 renew a certificate and to perform any other acts that may be  
22 necessary to regulate certified veterinary technicians in a  
23 manner consistent with the provisions of the Act applicable to  
24 veterinarians.

25 The title "certified veterinary technician", "veterinary

1 technician", "vet tech", or "technician" "Certified veterinary  
2 technician" and the initials "CVT" or "VT" may only be used by  
3 persons certified by the Department. A person who uses these  
4 titles without the certification as provided in this Section  
5 is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

6 Certified veterinary technicians shall be required to  
7 complete continuing education as prescribed by rule to renew  
8 their certification.

9 (Source: P.A. 93-281, eff. 12-31-03.)

10 (225 ILCS 115/29 new)

11 Sec. 29. Display of license. Every holder of a license  
12 shall display the license or a copy of the license in a  
13 conspicuous place in the holder's principal office or any  
14 other location where the holder renders services as a  
15 veterinarian or a certified veterinary technician. Every  
16 displayed license shall have the license number visible.