

SB2096



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2096

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Sen. Erica Harriss

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Veterinary Medical Practice Ownership Act. Provides that one or more persons licensed under the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004, or one or more persons or entities not licensed under the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004, may form a veterinary practice in any legal form under applicable laws to own, operate, and maintain an establishment for specified purposes related to animal ailments and injuries, subject to specified restrictions. Contains provisions regarding the death of an owner, actions based on violations, relationships with clients, discipline, severability, and other matters.

LRB104 09680 AAS 19746 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning business.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Veterinary Medical Practice Ownership Act.

6 Section 5. Formation.

7 (a) One or more persons licensed pursuant to the
8 Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 may form
9 a veterinary practice in any legal form pursuant to applicable
10 laws including, but not limited to, the Business Corporation
11 Act of 1983, the Limited Liability Company Act, and the
12 Uniform Partnership Act to own, operate, and maintain an
13 establishment for the study, diagnosis, and treatment of
14 animal ailments and injuries, whether physical or mental, and
15 to promote medical, surgical, and scientific research and
16 knowledge; provided that veterinary medical or surgical
17 treatment, consultation, or advice may be given only by
18 persons with ownership interest or employees of the business
19 who are licensed pursuant to the Veterinary Medicine and
20 Surgery Practice Act of 2004.

21 (b) One or more persons or entities that are not licensed
22 pursuant to the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act
23 of 2004 may form a veterinary practice in any legal form

1 pursuant to applicable laws including, but not limited to, the
2 Business Corporation Act of 1983, the Limited Liability
3 Company Act, and the Uniform Partnership Act to own, operate,
4 and maintain an establishment for the study, diagnosis, and
5 treatment of animal ailments and injuries, whether physical or
6 mental, and to promote medical, surgical, and scientific
7 research and knowledge provided:

8 (i) the veterinary practice complies with all
9 requirements of this Act and the Veterinary Medicine and
10 Surgery Practice Act of 2004; and

11 (ii) the veterinary practice ensures that all
12 employees of the veterinary practice that may provide or
13 influence veterinary medical or surgical treatment,
14 consultation, or advice are licensed pursuant to the
15 Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004.

16 Section 10. Death of owner. In the event of the death of a
17 licensed veterinarian, when the death would render a
18 veterinary practice unable to operate in compliance with this
19 Act and the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of
20 2004, the veterinary practice shall suspend its operations
21 until a person or persons holding a valid license to practice
22 veterinary medicine and surgery under the Veterinary Medicine
23 and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 assumes responsibility
24 temporarily or permanently for the provision of and influence
25 over veterinary medical or surgical treatment, consultation,

1 or advice provided by the veterinary practice.

2 In the event of a death when the deceased was the sole
3 owner of the veterinary medical practice and when the practice
4 is, or is to be, transferred into ownership of one or more
5 non-veterinarians, the veterinary medical practice may
6 continue to operate in accordance with this Section.

7 Section 15. Actions to enjoin violations. An interested
8 person who holds a valid license to practice veterinary
9 medicine and surgery pursuant to the Veterinary Medicine and
10 Surgery Practice Act of 2004 or any association whose primary
11 purpose is to represent the interests of persons who hold a
12 valid license to practice veterinary medicine and surgery may
13 bring private suit to enjoin: (1) the practice of veterinary
14 medicine and surgery by any veterinary medical practice that
15 is not in compliance with this Act or the Veterinary Medicine
16 and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 or (2) the activities of any
17 veterinary medical practice during all such times as any
18 employee of the practice individually or collectively,
19 directly or indirectly, who is not licensed pursuant to that
20 Act, provides veterinary medical or surgical treatment,
21 consultation, or advice. The interested person or association
22 may also prosecute such claims, wherein the court may order
23 civil fines against the corporation for violations of this Act
24 or the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 to
25 be paid to the Department of Financial and Professional

1 Regulation in amounts determined by the Department consistent
2 with the Department's powers under Sections 25 and 25.18 of
3 the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act of 2004 and
4 all other applicable provisions of the Veterinary Medicine and
5 Surgery Practice Act of 2004. Any such interested person or
6 association who is a successful party to such a suit shall
7 receive from the unsuccessful party against whom the suit was
8 brought all reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other
9 costs of prosecution.

10 Section 20. Client relationship not altered. This Act does
11 not alter any law applicable to the relationship between a
12 veterinarian furnishing medical service and a client receiving
13 such service, including liability arising out of such service.

14 Section 25. Discipline under the Veterinary Medicine and
15 Surgery Practice Act of 2004. An individual employee licensed
16 pursuant to the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act
17 of 2004 who is employed by a veterinary practice subject to
18 this Act shall remain subject to reprimand or discipline for
19 his or her conduct under the provisions of that Act.

20 Section 95. Severability. If any provision of this Act or
21 the application thereof to any person or circumstances is
22 invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or
23 applications of this Act which can be given effect without the

1 invalid provision or application, and to this end the
2 provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.