



MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 5, 2024
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Jeffrey Olguin, Lead Administrative & Policy Analyst
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 15.D. Outreach

Xylazine Alert from the California State Board of Pharmacy

In November 2023, the Board shared the [California State Board of Pharmacy’s alert](#) regarding xylazine. In the Board’s continued effort to fight against the abuse of xylazine, the information included informing the public that the FDA has not approved xylazine for any human use, and according to the [Office of National Drug Control Policy](#), xylazine is particularly harmful when combined with fentanyl.

In addition, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and U.S. Food and Drug Administration have also issued warnings about the improper diversion and importation of xylazine. The California Pharmacy Board also issued information to its licensees about its role and the responsibilities of its licensees.

The Board also encourages licensees to keep apprised of the [issues surrounding xylazine available from the California Department of Public Health](#).

Federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)

In December 2023, the Board informed its ListServ subscribers about the SCRA. The SCRA authorizes a U.S. service member or their spouse, who currently holds a valid license in good standing in another state, district, or territory of the U.S., to practice in California within the same profession or vocation, if the individual relocates to California due to military orders.

As of [December 31, 2023](#), there has been one veterinary professional, an RVT, who has requested recognition of their out-of-state license as part of the SCRA. Any individual interested in applying for recognition of their out-of-state license under the SCRA, are encouraged to [review the documentation requirements and apply for recognition of their out-of-state license](#).

Verifying a Veterinary License

During December 2023, the Board and DCA's Office of Public Affairs (OPA) partnered to begin distributing information to the public on how to verify a veterinary license. Board staff are in the process of working with OPA to develop a public service video and social media graphics to disseminate to consumers emphasizing the importance of license verification.