

MEMORANDUM

DATE	September 2, 2026
TO	Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC)
FROM	<u>Veterinary Practice Subcommittee (Subcommittee)</u> Mark Nunez, DVM Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 4. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on Recommendations from the Veterinary Practice Subcommittee

A. Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) Sections 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855, 4855.1, 4856, 4900, and 4917, Repeal BPC Sections 4853.1, 4853.6, and 4853.7, and Add BPC Section 4826.9 Regarding Removing Licensee Manager Requirement and Shifting Specified Responsibilities to Veterinary Premises Owner

Background

The Board began registering veterinary premises in 1937 and established the first veterinary premises standards in June 2000. In 2011, the Board adopted California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section 2030.05, which established the licensing manager responsibilities, and became operative on January 1, 2014.

According to the 2011 [Initial Statement of Reasons](#) (ISR), the specified purpose was to establish “that the managing licensee is wholly responsible for insuring [sic] the minimum standards are followed regardless of the number of hospital premises managed by the managing licensee and it requires the manager to maintain whatever physical presence is necessary to ensure such requirements are met.”

During the [October 2025 MDC meeting](#), the Subcommittee shared concerns raised by the Board’s Executive Officer (EO) and enforcement management regarding the licensee manager structure and the lack of accountability for the veterinary premises owners.

Holding the licensee manager “wholly responsible” for veterinary premises standards when the veterinary premises owner chooses not to fund the necessary changes fails to protect consumers or animals. The current regulatory structure allows owners to operate veterinary premises below minimum standards while hiding behind the licensee manager – creating a false sense of security disguised as proper protection.

The MDC recommended and the Board agreed to pursue a legislative proposal (drafted by the MDC) to eliminate the licensee manager requirement and shift the responsibilities to the veterinary premises owner.

Updates, Clarifications, and Recommendations

Since the last MDC meeting, the reconstituted Subcommittee and EO held several meetings with each other, Board counsel, other state veterinary boards, the California State Board of Pharmacy (CSBP), the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), and various shelter representatives.

During those meetings, it became clear that there is significant confusion about the licensee manager's responsibilities, the Board's disciplinary authority, and who can reasonably be held accountable for knowing the laws governing the veterinary premises. In response, the Subcommittee offers the following clarifications:

Licensee Manager Responsibilities (CCR, tit. 16, § [2030.05](#)):

- Premises registration (BPC § [4853](#))
- Clean and sanitary conditions and conform to minimum standards established by the Board (BPC § [4854](#))
- Records (BPC § [4855](#))
- Inspections (BPC § [4856](#))
- Veterinary premises standards (CCR, tit. 16, §§ [2030](#), [2030.1](#), [2030.2](#), [2030.3](#), [2032.5](#), California Building Code (CBC), tit. 24, § [1251.1](#))
- Ensuring no unlicensed activity is occurring (CCR, tit. 16, § [2030.05](#), subs. (c))
- Veterinary assistant controlled substance permit holder supervisor (CCR, tit. 16, § [2087.1](#))

As listed above, the licensee manager is only responsible for ensuring clean and sanitary conditions, conforming to minimum standards, recordkeeping, inspections, ensuring no unlicensed activity is occurring, and serving as a VACSP supervisor.

There are no statutory or regulatory requirements, beyond those listed, for a licensee manager to be responsible for administrative, employment, management, or clerical duties. There is also no statutory or regulatory requirement that a licensee manager is responsible for the medical decisions made by other veterinarians or the veterinary staff supervised by those licensed veterinarians at the veterinary premises.

Removing the licensee manager requirement does not change any responsibilities related to medical or operational decisions within the veterinary premises. Each veterinarian remains responsible for their own medical decisions and standard of care for each patient.

Removing the licensee manager requirement also does not change the prohibition of a non-veterinarian premises registrant from interfering with, controlling, or otherwise

directing the professional judgment of any California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician (BPC § [4854.1](#)).

Authority Over Veterinary Premises Registrants

Once the veterinary premises is registered, the veterinary premises owner is considered a registrant – not an unlicensed individual. The Board has jurisdiction over the registrant and can inspect the veterinary premises, investigate, issue citations against, and discipline the registrant. With that said, the Subcommittee believes the current veterinary premises citation authority is inadequate for consumer protection and recommends adopting a similar structure to BPC section [4875.7](#) for unlicensed practice citations.

Veterinary Premises Registrants Accountable for Complying with the Laws

The Subcommittee believes any veterinary premises registrant can and should be responsible for knowing and complying with the statutes and regulations pertaining to its veterinary premises. Board staff and inspectors often find non-veterinarians (i.e., premises owners, office managers, RVTs) very well versed in the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act and the minimum premises standards. Sometimes, those individuals appear to know the laws governing the veterinary premises just as well as the veterinarians. The Board also provides free live and recorded inspection webinars for any individuals in need of training.

Recommendations

The attached legislative proposal is based on significant research and feedback received thus far. The legislative proposal would make substantive amendments to remove the licensee manager requirements and shift specified responsibilities to the veterinary premises registrant. The proposal also makes non-substantive amendments to conform to those changes.

Only substantive changes to BPC sections are discussed in this memo, as follows (proposed additions are indicated in single underline; proposed deletions are indicated in ~~single strikethrough~~; proposed additions in pending legislation are indicated in *italic single underline*; proposed deletions in pending legislation are indicated in ~~*italic single strikethrough*~~):

1. Amend BPC section 4826.3 as follows (incorporates anticipated amendments in Senate Bill (SB) [1445](#) (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, 2026)):

4826.3 (a) ~~Notwithstanding any law,~~ The veterinary premises registrant shall ensure that each a registered veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, and veterinary assistant controlled substances permitholder registered in this state shall wear a name tag identification in at least ~~18 point~~ 18-point type in any area of the veterinary premises that is accessible to members of the public. The name tag identification shall include the registered veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, and veterinary assistant controlled substances permitholder's display

the person's name, and, if applicable, the board-issued license, registration, or permit type and number issued by the board. The identification shall be worn in a manner that is easily visible by the public.

(b) A person subject to the requirement in subdivision (a) may remove the name tag when working with or handling animal patients.

~~(c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2023.~~

Rationale: The licensee manager is not currently responsible for ensuring the veterinary premises employees are complying with this section. However, the Subcommittee believes the veterinary premises registrant should be responsible ensuring their employees are wearing the proper identification. Based on feedback from the profession, the statute was also amended for clarity.

2. Add new BPC section 4826.9 as follows:

4826.9. Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary premises may purchase and dispense, under the direction of a California licensed veterinarian, dangerous drugs and devices at wholesale for administration or dispensing to animal patients under the care of a licensed veterinarian at the registered veterinary premises. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep records of the kind and amounts of drugs purchased, administered, and dispensed, in accordance with state and federal law.

Rationale: Veterinary premises registrants currently are not specifically authorized by the Veterinary Practice Act to purchase or dispense drugs, including controlled substances. "Dangerous drug" and "dangerous device" are defined under BPC section 4022 to mean any drug or device unsafe for self-use in humans or animals, and includes any drug that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription.

"Controlled substance" is defined under BPC section 4021 to mean any substance listed under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (Health & Saf. Code § 11053 et seq.). The DEA may only issue a DEA registration to dispense controlled substances if that person or entity is authorized by a state jurisdiction to do so.¹ Currently, the DEA issues registrations to individual veterinarians as "Practitioner" registrations and to veterinary premises registrants as "Hospital/Clinic" registrations.

The proposed statute would specifically authorize a registered veterinary premises to purchase and dispense drugs, including controlled substances, so veterinary premises registrants can obtain/maintain DEA registrations.

¹ <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/%28DEA-DC-018%29%28DEA067%29%20DEA%20state%20reciprocity%20%28final%29%28Signed%29.pdf>

Since these registrants would be fingerprinted and registered with the Board and subject to recordkeeping requirements, the Board and DEA would be able to track the registrants and veterinary premises for drug diversion and other criminal activity.

3. Amend BPC section 4826.3 as follows:

~~4850. Every person holding a license under this chapter~~ The veterinary premises registrant shall conspicuously display for public viewing the license, registration, and permit issued by the board for each individual practicing veterinary medicine at the veterinary premises in his or her principal place of business.

Rationale: The licensee manager is not currently responsible for ensuring every licensee complies with this section. However, the Subcommittee believes the veterinary premises registrant should be responsible for ensuring the proper licenses are posted in the veterinary premises.

4. Add new BPC section 4853 as follows:

~~4853. [...]~~ (c) To obtain a veterinary premises registration, ~~The owner or operator of a veterinary premises shall~~ meet the following requirements:

(1) ~~sSubmit an premises registration application to the board. That includes the following information: The application shall set forth~~

(A) ~~Tthe name of each owner or operator of the veterinary premises owner. If the owner is a corporation or other artificial legal entity, the application shall indicate the type of artificial legal entity, and include the names and titles of each person beneficially interested therein and any person with management or control over the veterinary premises. "Person beneficially interested" means:, including the corporate entity, if applicable, the name of the premises, and the name of the responsible licensee manager who is to act for and on behalf of the registered premises. Substitution of the responsible licensee manager may be accomplished by application to the board if the following conditions are met:~~

(1) ~~The person substituted qualifies by presenting satisfactory evidence that the person possesses a valid, unexpired, and unrevoked license as provided by this chapter and that the license is not currently under suspension.~~

(2) ~~No circumvention of the law is contemplated by the substitution.~~

(d) (i) ~~If the owner or operator of a veterinary premises is a veterinary corporation practicing pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 4910), the application shall set forth the names and titles of, each officer, and director, or shareholder. Any changes in the officers,~~

~~directors, or shareholders shall be reported to the board within 30 days.~~

(ii) If the owner is a partnership, each partner.

(iii) If the owner is a limited liability company, each officer, manager, and member.

(iv) If the owner is an unincorporated or nonprofit association, each member, director, and officer.

(v) If the owner is a city, county, or city and county, the director or manager responsible for the veterinary premises operation.

(vi) If the owner is a trust, each trustee and beneficiary.

~~(e) If the owner or operator of a veterinary premises is a corporation or other artificial legal entity other than a veterinary corporation as provided under subdivision (d), the application shall set forth the names and titles of all owners, officers, general partners, if any, and the agent for service of process. Any changes in the owners, officers, general partners, or agent for service of process shall be reported to the board within 30 days.~~

Rationale: If a premises owner is a professional corporation, existing law requires each officer, director and shareholder to be listed on the application. Other corporations and artificial entities are required to list the names and titles of all owners, officers, general partners, if any, and the agent for service.

The Subcommittee believes these amendments, mirrored, in part, from BPC section [4201](#), provide better clarity of all ownership types. The Subcommittee believes shareholders should be struck because requiring shareholders to be listed provides no meaningful consumer protection. Shareholders do not participate in the operation, management, or decision-making of the premises. The notice of changes requirements would be moved to new subdivision (d), described below.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(B) The veterinary premises name.

(C) The veterinary premises physical address and mailing address, if different.

(D) The license plate number for each mobile veterinary premises.

Rationale: These application requirements would codify the current information being requested on the veterinary premises registration application, except the

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) would be replaced with the vehicle license plate number.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(E) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding initial and renewal registration applications.

(F) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding investigations, inspections, or other compliance related matters.

Rationale: These application requirements would provide the veterinary premises owner the option to designate an individual to communicate licensing and enforcement related matters. This is especially helpful for large corporations that choose one employee in a corporate office to submit renewal applications for multiple locations.

Similarly, if the Board receives a complaint for a corporately owned premises, there could be a designated individual to receive those communications. These amendments can significantly streamline licensing and enforcement processes.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(G) The type of veterinary services being offered, including whether the veterinary premises engages in the production of animal blood and blood component products.

Rationale: This requirement would codify existing information being requested on the application.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(H) The license number and issuing agency for each license held in or outside California that legally authorizes the individual to practice a specific regulated occupation. Verification, including any disciplinary or enforcement history, shall be confirmed through electronic means or direct submission from each issuing agency in which the applicant has identified.

Rationale: Currently, if a previously revoked veterinarian or RVT applies for a veterinary premises registration, the Board can deny the registration based on the discipline. However, the current premises registration application does not ask if the applicant has ever held a license outside of California.

The language is intentionally broad as many related health professionals may seek veterinary premises registration. If the registration applicant has a professional license or registration that was formally disciplined, that information is necessary to consider when reviewing the veterinary premises registration application for consumer protection.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(l) An attestation statement that the veterinary premises registrant or its designee has inspected the premises and it meets the minimum premises standards established by the board. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep documentation of the inspection for three years from the date of application.

Rationale: Other state veterinary boards have similar premises minimum standards attestation requirements. Further, CSBP has a similar, more robust, “self-assessment” requirement under BPC section [4102](#), but the Subcommittee believes the proposed language is sufficient.

It would hold the veterinary premises registrant accountable to self-inspect annually, and the Board could confirm the documentation during their own inspections. The registrant could use the Board’s courtesy self-inspection checklists or their own.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(2) Pay the applicable fees specified in Section 4905.

(3) As required by Section 144, submit a full set of fingerprints for the Department of Justice to perform a state and federal criminal history check and provide a response to the board in accordance with Section 11105 of the Penal Code. If the owner is an artificial entity, each person beneficially interested in the veterinary premises shall comply with this requirement.

(4) Submit a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, Certificate of Limited Partnership, Articles of Organization, Articles of Association, or Statement of Information, as applicable.

Rationale: Proposed paragraphs (2) and (3) are required under existing law (BPC §§ 144 and 4905, subd. (b)(8), (10), and (12)). The proposed legislation would list these requirements for applicant clarity. Paragraph (4) would codify existing information already requested for registration.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(d) Any changes in the officers, directors, managers, members, trustees, or beneficiaries shall be reported to the board within 30 days.

Rationale: Proposed subdivision (d) is required under existing law in current BPC section 4853, subdivisions (f) and (g). Moving the notice requirements to a new subdivision would reduce verbiage in the statute and apply the notice requirement to both applicants and registrants.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(e) No new veterinary premises registration shall be issued at a location where a veterinary premises registration was revoked or surrendered until the veterinary premises passes a board inspection.

Rationale: If the Board revokes a veterinary premises registration, the Board should have the ability to ensure that veterinary premises passes a Board inspection before issuing a new veterinary premises registration to the same location.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(f) No more than one veterinary premises registration shall be issued, renewed, or active at a time for each physical address.

Rationale: In recent years, veterinarians have tried to obtain multiple premises registrations when they are sharing space within the same veterinary premises. This is mainly due to the misunderstanding of the licensee manager responsibilities and not wanting to be held responsible for the medical errors of another veterinarian.

Further, there is no reason to issue multiple veterinary premises registrations to the same location. Doing so would allow one veterinary premises registrant to attempt to shift responsibility the other veterinary premises registrant for compliance issues at the location and severely hinder enforcement capabilities.

(BPC section 4853 amendments continued)

(fg) The veterinary premises registration is nontransferable cannot be transferred to a new owner or a new physical location. In the event the Board receives proof of ownership change, the Board shall cancel the premises registration. of an owner or operator of the premises, the premises registration holder shall notify the board of the change within 30 days after the change.

Rationale: These amendments would further clarify what “nontransferable” means. A veterinary premises owner cannot take a premises registration issued in one city, for example, Sacramento and update its address to another city, such as Los Angeles.

These amendments also would authorize the Board to cancel a veterinary premises registration when the Board receives proof of ownership change. This amendment

would resolve a frequent issue when a veterinary premises owner sells the premises and never notifies the Board.

Meanwhile, the new premises owner is trying to comply with the law by obtaining a veterinary premises registration, but there is still a current and active veterinary premises registration at the location, often in the same business name. The amendments would allow the Board to cancel the current registration and issue a new registration to the new veterinary premises owner.

5. Amend BPC section 4853.5 as follows:

4853.5. (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, ~~When it has been adjudicated in an administrative hearing that the licensee manager~~ a veterinary premises registrant has failed to keep the veterinary premises and all equipment therein in a clean and sanitary condition as provided for in subdivision (h) of Section 4883, or is in violation of any of the provisions of Section 4854, the board may withhold, suspend, or revoke the veterinary premises registration of veterinary premises, or assess a fine of not less than fifty two hundred dollars (\$~~500~~200) nor more than five hundred two thousand dollars (\$~~5002,000~~) per day until such violation has been rectified, ~~or by both such suspension and fine. The total amount of any fine assessed pursuant to this section shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).~~

Rationale: This statute was last amended in 1980. The total dollar values in the proposed amendments would reflect adjustments for inflation.

In addition, the Subcommittee believes veterinary premises violations should be treated similar to unlicensed practice citations under BPC section [4875.7](#), where the Board has explicit authority to fine above the \$5,000 cap otherwise established for general professional licenses under BPC section 125.9.

As such, the cap would be removed. The Subcommittee believes this is necessary to incentivize veterinary premises registrants to comply quickly with the established premises standards and improve consumer protection.

6. Repeal BPC section 4853.6. These provisions are redundant and already are covered under BPC section 4883.
7. Repeal BPC section 4853.7. These provisions are redundant and already are covered under BPC section 4902.
8. Amend BPC section 4854 as follows (incorporates anticipated amendments in Assembly Bill (AB) [2010](#) (Soria, 2026)):

4854. (a) ~~All premises where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, or veterinary surgery is being practiced, and all instruments, apparatus and apparel~~

~~used in connection with those practices, shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times, and shall conform to those~~ The veterinary premises registrant is responsible for ensuring that no unlicensed activity is occurring within or under the auspices of the veterinary premises and that the veterinary premises complies with all minimum veterinary premises standards established by the board.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, high-volume spay or neuter services shall not be required to be performed in a separate surgical room.

(c) For purposes of this section, “high-volume spay or neuter services” means the aseptic surgical sterilization by a veterinarian of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.

Rationale: The Subcommittee’s proposed amendments would shift existing responsibilities from the licensee manager to the veterinary premises registrant.

9. Amend BPC section 4900 as follows (incorporates anticipated amendments in [AB 1999](#) (Kalra, 2026)):

4900. [...]

(2) To renew a veterinary premises registration, the veterinary premises ~~registration holder~~ registrant shall satisfy the requirements of subdivisions (c), (d), and (e) of Section 4853 and confirm that the information provided to the board is current and valid.

[...]

Rationale: The proposed amendments would ensure the veterinary premises information provided upon initial renewal stays updated. The amendments also would include the attestation described above in the amendments to BPC section 4853, subdivision (c)(1)(I), that the veterinary premises registrant inspected the veterinary premises and that it meets the minimum standards established by the Board.

The proposed amendments to BPC section 4900 would remove the references to BPC section 4853, subdivisions (d) and (e), which are proposed to be restructured under BPC section 4853 above.

Requested Action

If the MDC agrees with the Subcommittee’s recommendation, please entertain a motion to recommend to the Board submission to the California State Legislature the legislative proposal reflected in Attachment 1 to amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) sections 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855,

4855.1, 4856, 4900, and 4917, repeal BPC sections 4853.1, 4853.6, and 4853.7, and add BPC section 4826.9.

Attachments:

1. Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) Sections 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855, 4855.1, 4856, 4900, and 4917, Repeal BPC Sections 4853.1, 4853.6, and 4853.7, and Add BPC Section 4826.9
2. Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) Sections 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855, 4855.1, 4856, 4900, and 4917, Repeal BPC Sections 4853.1, 4853.6, and 4853.7, and Add BPC Section 4826.9 (CLEAN VERSION)

CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO AMEND BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE (BPC) SECTIONS 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855, 4855.1, 4856, 4900, AND 4917, REPEAL BPC SECTIONS 4853.1, 4853.6, AND 4853.7, AND ADD BPC SECTION 4826.9

Proposed additions are indicated in single underline.

Proposed deletions are indicated in ~~single strikethrough~~.

Proposed additions in pending legislation are indicated in *italic single underline*.

Proposed deletions in pending legislation are indicated in ~~*italic single strikethrough*~~.

4826. A person practices veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry, and the various branches thereof, when the person does any one of the following:

- (a) Represents oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry in any of its branches.
- (b) Diagnoses or prescribes a drug, medicine, appliance, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals.
- (c) Administers a drug, medicine, appliance, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals, except where the medicine, appliance, application, or treatment is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant at the direction of and under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian subject to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 4836) or where the drug, including, but not limited to, a drug that is a controlled substance, is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant pursuant to Section 4836.1. However, no person, other than a licensed veterinarian, may induce anesthesia unless authorized by regulation of the board.
- (d) Performs a surgical or dental operation upon an animal.
- (e) Performs a tendonectomy, onychectomy, or any type of claw removal on a feline.
- (f) Performs any manual procedure for the diagnosis of pregnancy, sterility, or infertility upon livestock or Equidae.
- (g) Collects blood from an animal for the purpose of transferring or selling that blood and blood component products to a licensed veterinarian at a registered veterinary premises, except where the blood is collected by a registered veterinary technician or veterinary assistant at the direction of, and under the direct supervision of, a licensed veterinarian subject to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 4836) or where the blood is

collected by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant pursuant to Section 4836.5. For purposes of this section, "blood and blood component products" has the same meaning as defined in Section 4920.

(h) Uses any words, letters, or titles in such connection or under such circumstances as to induce the belief that the person using them is engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry. This use shall be prima facie evidence of the intention to represent oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry.

4826.3 (a) ~~Notwithstanding any law,~~ The veterinary premises registrant shall ensure that each a registered veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, and veterinary assistant controlled substances permitholder registered in this state shall wear a name tag identification in at least 18-point type in any area of the veterinary premises that is accessible to members of the public. The name tag identification shall include the registered veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, and veterinary assistant controlled substances permitholder's display the person's name, and, if applicable, the board-issued license, registration, or permit type and number issued by the board. The identification shall be worn in a manner that is easily visible by the public.

(b) A person subject to the requirement in subdivision (a) may remove the name tag when working with or handling animal patients.

~~(c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2023.~~

4826.9. Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary premises may purchase and dispense, under the direction of a California licensed veterinarian, dangerous drugs and devices at wholesale for administration or dispensing to animal patients under the care of a licensed veterinarian at the registered veterinary premises. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep records of the kind and amounts of drugs purchased, administered, and dispensed, in accordance with state and federal law.

4836.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant may collect blood from an animal for the purpose of transferring or selling the blood and blood component products to a licensed veterinarian at a registered veterinary premises, under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian when done pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Blood and blood component products" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 4920.

(2) "Direct supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (e) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(3) "Indirect supervision" has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (f) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

4840.7. (a) A registered veterinary technician ~~who has been examined by the board in the area of radiation safety and techniques~~ may operate radiographic equipment under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) (1) A veterinary assistant who has been trained in the area of radiation safety and techniques may operate radiographic equipment under the direct supervision of a registered veterinary technician or a licensed veterinarian.

(2) ~~The responsible managing licensee of a veterinary premises~~ registrant shall maintain records of the training described in paragraph (1). A veterinary assistant for whom records of this training do not exist shall not operate radiographic equipment.

(3) The training records described in paragraph (2) shall be made available to the board upon request and at the time of any inspection of the veterinary premises.

4850. ~~Every person holding a license under this chapter~~ The veterinary premises registrant shall conspicuously display for public viewing the license, registration, and permit issued by the board for each individual practicing veterinary medicine at the veterinary premises in his or her principal place of business.

4853. (a) All veterinary premises shall be registered with the board. ~~The certificate of registration shall be on a form prescribed in accordance with Section 164.~~

(b) ~~"Veterinary pPremises"~~ "Veterinary premises" for purposes of this chapter shall mean the location of operation where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, and the various branches thereof is being practiced and shall include a building, kennel, mobile unit, or vehicle. ~~Mobile units and vehicles~~ veterinary premises shall be exempted from independent registration with the board if they are operated from a ~~building or facility that is the licensee manager's principal place of business and the building is~~ location registered with the board, and the registration identifies and declares the use of the ~~mobile unit or vehicle~~ veterinary premises.

(c) ~~To obtain a veterinary premises registration,~~ the owner or operator of a veterinary premises shall meet the following requirements:

(1) ~~sSubmit an premises registration application to the board- that includes the following information: The application shall set forth~~

(A) ~~†The name of each owner or operator of the veterinary premises owner. If the owner is a corporation or other artificial legal entity, the application shall indicate the type of artificial legal entity, and include the names and titles of each person beneficially interested therein and any person with management or control over the veterinary premises. "Person beneficially interested" means;~~ including the

~~corporate entity, if applicable, the name of the premises, and the name of the responsible licensee manager who is to act for and on behalf of the registered premises. Substitution of the responsible licensee manager may be accomplished by application to the board if the following conditions are met:~~

~~(1) The person substituted qualifies by presenting satisfactory evidence that the person possesses a valid, unexpired, and unrevoked license as provided by this chapter and that the license is not currently under suspension.~~

~~(2) No circumvention of the law is contemplated by the substitution.~~

~~(d) (i) If the owner or operator of a veterinary premises is a veterinary corporation practicing pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 4910), the application shall set forth the names and titles of each officer, and director, or shareholder. Any changes in the officers, directors, or shareholders shall be reported to the board within 30 days.~~

(ii) If the owner is a partnership, each partner.

(iii) If the owner is a limited liability company, each officer, manager, and member.

(iv) If the owner is an unincorporated or nonprofit association, each member, director, and officer.

(v) If the owner is a city, county, or city and county, the director or manager responsible for the veterinary premises operation.

(vi) If the owner is a trust, each trustee and beneficiary.

~~(e) If the owner or operator of a veterinary premises is a corporation or other artificial legal entity other than a veterinary corporation as provided under subdivision (d), the application shall set forth the names and titles of all owners, officers, general partners, if any, and the agent for service of process. Any changes in the owners, officers, general partners, or agent for service of process shall be reported to the board within 30 days.~~

(B) The veterinary premises name.

(C) The veterinary premises physical address and mailing address, if different.

(D) The license plate number for each mobile veterinary premises.

(E) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding initial and renewal registration applications.

(F) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding investigations, inspections, or other compliance related matters.

(G) The type of veterinary services being offered, including whether the veterinary premises engages in the production of animal blood and blood component products.

(H) The license number and issuing agency for each license held in or outside California that legally authorizes the individual to practice a specific regulated occupation. Verification, including any disciplinary or enforcement history, shall be confirmed through electronic means or direct submission from each issuing agency in which the applicant has identified.

(I) An attestation statement that the veterinary premises registrant or its designee has inspected the premises and it meets the minimum premises standards established by the board. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep documentation of the inspection for three years from the date of application.

(2) Pay the applicable fees specified in Section 4905.

(3) As required by Section 144, submit a full set of fingerprints for the Department of Justice to perform a state and federal criminal history check and provide a response to the board in accordance with Section 11105 of the Penal Code. If the owner is an artificial entity, each person beneficially interested in the veterinary premises shall comply with this requirement.

(4) Submit a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, Certificate of Limited Partnership, Articles of Organization, Articles of Association, or Statement of Information, as applicable.

(d) Any changes in the officers, directors, managers, members, trustees, or beneficiaries shall be reported to the board within 30 days.

(e) No new veterinary premises registration shall be issued at a location where a veterinary premises registration was revoked or surrendered until the veterinary premises passes a board inspection.

(f) No more than one veterinary premises registration shall be issued, renewed, or active at a time for each physical address.

(fg) The ~~veterinary premises registration is nontransferable~~ cannot be transferred to a new owner or a new physical location. In the event the Board receives proof of ownership change, the Board shall cancel the premises registration. ~~of an owner or operator of the premises, the premises registration holder shall notify the board of the change within 30 days after the change.~~

(gh) This section does not authorize any person, corporation, or artificial legal entity, other than a California-licensed veterinarian or a veterinary corporation practicing pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 4910) and the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), to furnish to any person or animal patient any veterinary services, diagnosis, or treatment within the scope of California veterinarian licensure under this chapter. This section does not authorize any person, other than a California-licensed veterinarian within the scope of their license, to engage directly or indirectly in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, veterinary dentistry, and the various branches thereof in accordance with Section 4826. This section does not regulate, govern, or affect in any manner the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry by any person duly licensed to engage in such practice.

(hi) The location where a veterinarian practices telehealth shall be exempt from the requirement that it be registered pursuant to this section if all of the following requirements are satisfied:

(1) The veterinarian does not perform in-person examination or treatment of animal patients at the location.

(2) No veterinary drug, medicine, appliance, or medical equipment is kept at the location.

(3) The veterinary medical records required pursuant to Sections 4855 and 4856 are created, maintained, and stored so as to protect the veterinary medical records from access by unauthorized individuals, damage, or loss.

(4) The following information shall be provided on any electronic publication, including any internet website, through which the veterinarian provides or offers to provide veterinary medical services:

(A) The veterinarian's name, contact information, and California veterinarian license number, prominently displayed.

(B) Contact information and instruction for obtaining a copy of the animal patient's medical records.

(C) A statement that a client may contact the California Veterinary Medical Board if the client has any questions or complaints regarding the veterinarian.

~~4853.1. Each application to register a premises pursuant to Section 4853 shall be made on a form provided by the board.~~

4853.5. (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, ~~When it has been adjudicated in an administrative hearing that the licensee manager a veterinary premises registrant has failed to keep the veterinary premises and all equipment therein in a clean and sanitary condition as provided for in subdivision (h) of Section 4883, or is in violation of any of the provisions of Section 4854, the board may withhold, suspend, or revoke the veterinary premises registration of veterinary premises, or assess a fine of not less than fifty two hundred dollars (\$50200) nor more than five hundred two thousand dollars (\$5002,000) per day until such violation has been rectified, or by both such suspension and fine. The total amount of any fine assessed pursuant to this section shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).~~

4853.6. (a) ~~The board shall deny, suspend, or revoke registration of a veterinary premises if any of the following occur:~~

~~(1) The licensee manager set forth in the application in accordance with Section 4853 ceases to become responsible for management of the registered premises and no substitution of the responsible licensee manager has been made by application as provided for in Section 4853.~~

~~(2) The premises registration holder or the licensee manager has, under proceedings conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, the license to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry revoked or suspended.~~

~~(3) Unless licensed pursuant to Section 4825, the premises registration holder has practiced, influenced, or exerted control over the provision of veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, and the various branches thereof.~~

~~(b) The board shall not renew the premises registration if there is no licensee manager associated with the premises.~~

~~(c) The board may deny, suspend, or revoke registration of the veterinary premises for unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, and the various branches thereof by the premises registration holder.~~

4853.7. ~~A premise registration that is not renewed within five years after its expiration may not be renewed and shall not be restored, reissued, or reinstated thereafter. However, an application for a new premise registration may be submitted and obtained if both of the following conditions are met:~~

~~(a) No fact, circumstance, or condition exists that, if the premise registration was issued, would justify its revocation or suspension.~~

~~(b) All of the fees that would be required for the initial premise registration are paid at the time of application.~~

4854. ~~(a) All premises where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, or veterinary surgery is being practiced, and all instruments, apparatus and apparel used in connection with those practices, shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times, and shall conform to those~~ The veterinary premises registrant is responsible for ensuring that no unlicensed activity is occurring within or under the auspices of the veterinary premises and that the veterinary premises complies with all minimum veterinary premises standards established by the board.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, high-volume spay or neuter services shall not be required to be performed in a separate surgical room.

(c) For purposes of this section, "high-volume spay or neuter services" means the aseptic surgical sterilization by a veterinarian of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.

4854.1. A veterinary premises registration holder-registrant who is not a California-licensed veterinarian pursuant to Section 4825 shall not interfere with, control, or otherwise direct the professional judgment of any California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician. The board may require any information, including, but not limited to, employment contracts between the veterinary premises registration holder-registrant and a California-licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician, the board deems is reasonably necessary for the enforcement of this section.

4855. (a) A veterinarian subject to the provisions of this chapter shall, as required by regulation of the board, keep a written record of all animals receiving veterinary services, and provide a copy of that record to the client or the client's authorized agent within five days of receiving the client's or the client's authorized agent's verbal or written request.

(b) If requested verbally or in writing by the client or the client's authorized agent because the animal is in critical condition or direct transfer to another veterinary premises for medical care is recommended, the veterinarian veterinary premises registrant, upon release of the animal patient from the veterinarian's care, shall either:

(1) Provide a copy or summary of the written record to the client or the client's authorized agent.

(2) If a written record is not available upon release of the animal patient, communicate information to facilitate continuity of care of the animal patient either to:

(A) The receiving veterinarian or veterinary premises.

(B) The client or the client's authorized agent if the receiving veterinary premises is unknown.

(c) The minimum amount of information that shall be included in written records and summaries shall be established by the board.

(d) The minimum duration of time for which a ~~registered~~ veterinary premises registrant shall retain the written record or a complete copy of the written record shall be determined by the board.

4855.1. Within 30 days of ~~receiving a written or verbal request by the~~ from a client or their authorized agent ~~for a record of client payments~~, the ~~licensee manager of the~~ veterinary premises registrant shall ensure ~~provide a records~~ of client payments ~~made to the veterinary premises related to~~ for services and treatment are provided to the requestor. ~~A record of client~~ These payments records made to the veterinary premises related to services and treatments provided shall be maintained for a minimum of three years after the animal's last visits.

4856. (a) All records required by law to be kept by a veterinarian and the veterinary premises registrant subject to this chapter, including, but not limited to, records pertaining to diagnosis and treatment of animals and records pertaining to drugs or devices for use on animals, shall be open to inspection by the board, or its authorized representatives, during an inspection as part of a regular inspection program by the board, or during an investigation initiated in response to a complaint that a licensee has violated any law or regulation that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the board. A copy of all those records shall be provided to the board immediately upon request.

(b) Equipment and drugs on the veterinary premises, or any other place, where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, or the various branches thereof is being practiced, or otherwise in the possession of a veterinarian for purposes of that practice, shall be open to inspection by the board, or its authorized representatives, during an inspection as part of a regular inspection program by the board, or during an investigation initiated in response to a complaint that a licensee has violated any law or regulation that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the board.

(c) The ~~licensee manager for the registered~~ veterinary premises registrant shall ensure ~~make any records related to the services a veterinarian has provided on behalf of~~ at the registered veterinary premises are available for inspection by that veterinarian.

4900. (a) All ~~veterinary~~ veterinarian licenses, veterinary technician registrations, and veterinary assistant controlled substance ~~permits~~, permits shall expire at 12 midnight of the last day of the month in which the license was issued during the second year of a two-year term if not renewed.

(b) (1) All veterinary premises registrations shall expire annually at 12 midnight of the last day of the month in which the ~~license~~ veterinary premises registration was issued, unless renewed.

(2) To renew a veterinary premises registration, the veterinary premises registration holder registrant shall satisfy the requirements of subdivisions (c), (d), and (e) of Section 4853 and confirm that the information provided to the board is current and valid.

(c) To renew an unexpired license, registration, or permit, the licensee, registrant, or permitholder shall, on or before the date of expiration of the license or registration, apply for renewal on a form provided by the board, accompanied by the prescribed renewal fee. The renewal application shall contain a statement to the effect that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, has not been the subject of professional disciplinary action taken by any public agency in ~~California or any other~~ state or territory, and has not violated any of the provisions of this chapter. If the applicant is unable to make that statement, the application shall contain a statement of the conviction, professional discipline, or violation.

(d) Each licensee, registrant, and permitholder who has an electronic mail address shall report to the board that electronic mail address during the time of renewal and confirm that the electronic mail address and address of record is current and valid. The electronic mail address shall be considered confidential and not subject to public disclosure.

4917. Nothing in this article requires an ~~applicant for or a holder of a certificate of registration of veterinary premises~~ applicant or registrant described in Section 4853 to be a veterinary corporation.

CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO AMEND BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE (BPC) SECTIONS 4826, 4826.3, 4836.5, 4840.7, 4850, 4853, 4853.5, 4854, 4854.1, 4855, 4855.1, 4856, 4900, AND 4917, REPEAL BPC SECTIONS 4853.1, 4853.6, AND 4853.7, AND ADD BPC SECTION 4826.9

(CLEAN VERSION)

FINAL STATUTES IF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL PASSES

4826. A person practices veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry, and the various branches thereof, when the person does any one of the following:

- (a) Represents oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry in any of its branches.
- (b) Diagnoses or prescribes a drug, medicine, appliance, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals.
- (c) Administers a drug, medicine, appliance, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals, except where the medicine, appliance, application, or treatment is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant at the direction of and under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian subject to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 4836) or where the drug, including, but not limited to, a drug that is a controlled substance, is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant pursuant to Section 4836.1. However, no person, other than a licensed veterinarian, may induce anesthesia unless authorized by regulation of the board.
- (d) Performs a surgical or dental operation upon an animal.
- (e) Performs a tendonectomy, onychectomy, or any type of claw removal on a feline.
- (f) Performs any manual procedure for the diagnosis of pregnancy, sterility, or infertility upon livestock or Equidae.
- (g) Collects blood from an animal for the purpose of transferring or selling that blood and blood component products to a licensed veterinarian at a registered veterinary premises, except where the blood is collected by a registered veterinary technician or veterinary assistant at the direction of, and under the direct supervision of, a licensed veterinarian subject to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 4836) or where the blood is collected by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant pursuant to

Section 4836.5. For purposes of this section, “blood and blood component products” has the same meaning as defined in Section 4920.

(h) Uses any words, letters, or titles in such connection or under such circumstances as to induce the belief that the person using them is engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry. This use shall be prima facie evidence of the intention to represent oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry.

4826.3 (a) The veterinary premises registrant shall ensure that each registered veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, and veterinary assistant controlled substances permit holder wears identification in at least 18-point type in any area of the veterinary premises accessible to the public. The identification shall display the person’s name, and, if applicable, the board-issued license, registration, or permit type and number. The identification shall be worn in a manner that is easily visible by the public.

(b) A person subject to the requirement in subdivision (a) may remove the name tag when working with or handling animal patients.

4826.9. Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary premises may purchase and dispense, under the direction of a California licensed veterinarian, dangerous drugs and devices at wholesale for administration or dispensing to animal patients under the care of a licensed veterinarian at the registered veterinary premises. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep records of the kind and amounts of drugs purchased, administered, and dispensed, in accordance with state and federal law.

4836.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant may collect blood from an animal for the purpose of transferring or selling the blood and blood component products to a licensed veterinarian at a registered veterinary premises, under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian when done pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) “Blood and blood component products” has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 4920.

(2) “Direct supervision” has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (e) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(3) “Indirect supervision” has the same meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (f) of Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

4840.7. (a) A registered veterinary technician may operate radiographic equipment under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) (1) A veterinary assistant who has been trained in the area of radiation safety and techniques may operate radiographic equipment under the direct supervision of a registered veterinary technician or a licensed veterinarian.

(2) The ~~responsible managing licensee~~ of a veterinary premises registrant shall maintain records of the training described in paragraph (1). A veterinary assistant for whom records of this training do not exist shall not operate radiographic equipment.

(3) The training records described in paragraph (2) shall be made available to the board upon request and at the time of any inspection of the veterinary premises.

4850. The veterinary premises registrant shall conspicuously display for public viewing the license, registration, and permit issued by the board for each individual practicing veterinary medicine at the veterinary premises.

4853. (a) All veterinary premises shall be registered with the board.

(b) "Veterinary premises" for purposes of this chapter shall mean the location of operation where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, and the various branches thereof is being practiced and shall include a building, kennel, mobile unit, or vehicle. Mobile veterinary premises shall be exempted from independent registration with the board if they are operated from a location registered with the board, and the registration identifies and declares the use of the mobile veterinary premises.

(c) To obtain a veterinary premises registration, the owner of a veterinary premises shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Submit an application to the board that includes the following information:

(A) The name of each veterinary premises owner. If the owner is a corporation or other artificial legal entity, the application shall indicate the type of artificial legal entity, and include the names and titles of each person beneficially interested therein and any person with management or control over the veterinary premises. "Person beneficially interested" means:

(i) If the owner is a corporation, each officer and director.

(ii) If the owner is a partnership, each partner.

(iii) If the owner is a limited liability company, each officer, manager, and member.

(iv) If the owner is an unincorporated or nonprofit association, each member, director, and officer.

- (v) If the owner is a city, county, or city and county, the director or manager responsible for the veterinary premises operation.
 - (vi) If the owner is a trust, each trustee and beneficiary.
- (B) The veterinary premises name.
- (C) The veterinary premises physical address and mailing address, if different.
- (D) The license plate number for each mobile veterinary premises.
- (E) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding initial and renewal registration applications.
- (F) The name, telephone number, and email address of the individual authorized to submit and receive Board communications regarding investigations, inspections, or other compliance related matters.
- (G) The type of veterinary services being offered, including whether the veterinary premises engages in the production of animal blood and blood component products.
- (H) The license number and issuing agency for each license held in or outside California that legally authorizes the individual to practice a specific regulated occupation. Verification, including any disciplinary or enforcement history, shall be confirmed through electronic means or direct submission from each issuing agency in which the applicant has identified.
- (I) An attestation statement that the veterinary premises registrant or its designee has inspected the premises and it meets the minimum premises standards established by the board. The veterinary premises registrant shall keep documentation of the inspection for three years from the date of application.
- (2) Pay the applicable fees specified in Section 4905.
- (3) As required by Section 144, submit a full set of fingerprints for the Department of Justice to perform a state and federal criminal history check and provide a response to the board in accordance with Section 11105 of the Penal Code. If the owner is an artificial entity, each person beneficially interested in the veterinary premises shall comply with this requirement.
- (4) Submit a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, Certificate of Limited Partnership, Articles of Organization, Articles of Association, or Statement of Information, as applicable.

(d) Any changes in the officers, directors, managers, members, trustees, or beneficiaries shall be reported to the board within 30 days.

(e) No new veterinary premises registration shall be issued at a location where a veterinary premises registration was revoked or surrendered until the veterinary premises passes a board inspection.

(f) No more than one veterinary premises registration shall be issued, renewed, or active at a time for each physical address.

(g) The veterinary premises registration cannot be transferred to a new owner or a new physical location. In the event the Board receives proof of ownership change, the Board shall cancel the premises registration.

(h) This section does not authorize any person, corporation, or artificial legal entity, other than a California-licensed veterinarian or a veterinary corporation practicing pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 4910) and the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code), to furnish to any person or animal patient any veterinary services, diagnosis, or treatment within the scope of California veterinarian licensure under this chapter. This section does not authorize any person, other than a California-licensed veterinarian within the scope of their license, to engage directly or indirectly in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, veterinary dentistry, and the various branches thereof in accordance with Section 4826. This section does not regulate, govern, or affect in any manner the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry by any person duly licensed to engage in such practice.

(i) The location where a veterinarian practices telehealth shall be exempt from the requirement that it be registered pursuant to this section if all of the following requirements are satisfied:

(1) The veterinarian does not perform in-person examination or treatment of animal patients at the location.

(2) No veterinary drug, medicine, appliance, or medical equipment is kept at the location.

(3) The veterinary medical records required pursuant to Sections 4855 and 4856 are created, maintained, and stored so as to protect the veterinary medical records from access by unauthorized individuals, damage, or loss.

(4) The following information shall be provided on any electronic publication, including any internet website, through which the veterinarian provides or offers to provide veterinary medical services:

(A) The veterinarian's name, contact information, and California veterinarian license number, prominently displayed.

(B) Contact information and instruction for obtaining a copy of the animal patient's medical records.

(C) A statement that a client may contact the California Veterinary Medical Board if the client has any questions or complaints regarding the veterinarian.

4853.5. (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, when a veterinary premises registrant has failed to keep the veterinary premises and all equipment therein in a clean and sanitary condition as provided for in subdivision (h) of Section 4883, or is in violation of any of the provisions of Section 4854, the board may withhold, suspend, or revoke the veterinary premises registration, or assess a fine of not less than two hundred dollars (\$200) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per day until such violation has been rectified.

4854. (a) The veterinary premises registrant is responsible for ensuring that no unlicensed activity is occurring within or under the auspices of the veterinary premises and that the veterinary premises complies with all minimum veterinary premises standards established by the board.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, high-volume spay or neuter services shall not be required to be performed in a separate surgical room.

(c) For purposes of this section, "high-volume spay or neuter services" means the aseptic surgical sterilization by a veterinarian of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.

4854.1. A veterinary premises registrant who is not a California-licensed veterinarian pursuant to Section 4825 shall not interfere with, control, or otherwise direct the professional judgment of any California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician. The board may require any information, including, but not limited to, employment contracts between the veterinary premises registrant and a California-licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician, the board deems is reasonably necessary for the enforcement of this section.

4855. (a) A veterinarian subject to the provisions of this chapter shall, as required by regulation of the board, keep a written record of all animals receiving veterinary services, and provide a copy of that record to the client or the client's authorized agent within five days of receiving the client's or the client's authorized agent's verbal or written request.

(b) If requested verbally or in writing by the client or the client's authorized agent because the animal is in critical condition or direct transfer to another veterinary

premises for medical care is recommended, the veterinary premises registrant, upon release of the animal patient from the veterinarian's care, shall either:

(1) Provide a copy or summary of the written record to the client or the client's authorized agent.

(2) If a written record is not available upon release of the animal patient, communicate information to facilitate continuity of care of the animal patient either to:

(A) The receiving veterinarian or veterinary premises.

(B) The client or the client's authorized agent if the receiving veterinary premises is unknown.

(c) The minimum amount of information that shall be included in written records and summaries shall be established by the board.

(d) The minimum duration of time for which a veterinary premises registrant shall retain the written record or a complete copy of the written record shall be determined by the board.

4855.1. Within 30 days a written or verbal request from a client or their authorized agent, the veterinary premises registrant shall ensure records of client payments for services and treatment are provided to the requestor. These payment records shall be maintained for a minimum of three years after the animal's last visits.

4856. (a) All records required by law to be kept by a veterinarian and the veterinary premises registrant subject to this chapter, including, but not limited to, records pertaining to diagnosis and treatment of animals and records pertaining to drugs or devices for use on animals, shall be open to inspection by the board, or its authorized representatives, during an inspection as part of a regular inspection program by the board, or during an investigation initiated in response to a complaint that a licensee has violated any law or regulation that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the board. A copy of all those records shall be provided to the board immediately upon request.

(b) Equipment and drugs on the veterinary premises, or any other place, where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, veterinary surgery, or the various branches thereof is being practiced, or otherwise in the possession of a veterinarian for purposes of that practice, shall be open to inspection by the board, or its authorized representatives, during an inspection as part of a regular inspection program by the board, or during an investigation initiated in response to a complaint that a licensee has violated any law or regulation that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the board.

(c) The veterinary premises registrant shall ensure any records related to the services a veterinarian has provided at the veterinary premises are available for inspection by that veterinarian.

4900. (a) All veterinarian licenses, veterinary technician registrations, and veterinary assistant controlled substance permits shall expire at 12 midnight of the last day of the month in which the license was issued during the second year of a two-year term if not renewed.

(b) (1) All veterinary premises registrations shall expire annually at 12 midnight of the last day of the month in which the veterinary premises registration was issued, unless renewed.

(2) To renew a veterinary premises registration, the veterinary premises registrant shall satisfy the requirements of subdivision (c)-of Section 4853 and confirm that the information provided to the board is current and valid.

(c) To renew an unexpired license, registration, or permit, the licensee, registrant, or permitholder shall, on or before the date of expiration of the license or registration, apply for renewal on a form provided by the board, accompanied by the prescribed renewal fee. The renewal application shall contain a statement to the effect that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, has not been the subject of professional disciplinary action taken by any public agency in any state or territory, and has not violated any of the provisions of this chapter. If the applicant is unable to make that statement, the application shall contain a statement of the conviction, professional discipline, or violation.

(d) Each licensee, registrant, and permitholder who has an electronic mail address shall report to the board that electronic mail address during the time of renewal and confirm that the electronic mail address and address of record is current and valid. The electronic mail address shall be considered confidential and not subject to public disclosure.

4917. Nothing in this article requires a veterinary premises applicant or registrant described in Section 4853 to be a veterinary corporation.