

MEMORANDUM

DATE	September 2, 2026
TO	Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	<u>Registered Veterinary Technician Subcommittee (Subcommittee)</u> Kristi Pawlowski, RVT Kristin Spring, RVT
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 5. Update and Discussion from the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) Subcommittee

A. Analysis of CaRVTA's 2025 Legislative Proposal (RN 25 01551) Compared to Current Statutes and Regulations, Including Potential Supervision Level Changes Based on Specialty Certification

Background

During its January 2026 meeting, the Board reviewed the California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association (CaRVTA) 2025 legislative proposal, Attachment 1 hereto, to amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) sections 4826.1 and 4840 and to add Article 2.2 (beginning with BPC section 4833) to expand the RVT scope of practice.

In previous discussions on access to care and the veterinary professional associate (VPA) concept, the Board has emphasized the importance of veterinarians fully utilizing RVTs within their existing statutory and regulatory scope. The Board has also noted that strengthening and building upon RVT training may improve access to veterinary care more effectively and quickly than creating a new licensure category.

At its April 2026 meeting, the Board reaffirmed that proposing scope-of-practice expansions is the responsibility of professional associations, not the Board. However, as part of the Board's consumer protection mission, it must ensure there are no unnecessary barriers to licensure or practice that could limit access to veterinary care. For RVTs, the Board is responsible for defining appropriate supervision requirements based on knowledge, skills, and abilities of those RVTs.

Accordingly, the Board directed the MDC to compare CaRVTA's proposal with existing statutes and regulations and identify where supervision levels may be modified based on specialty certifications.

Update, Analysis, and Additional Research

The Subcommittee has held multiple meetings to review CaRVTA's legislative proposal and review the statutes and regulations related to RVT scope of practice and required supervision levels.

Analysis

The Subcommittee provides an analysis of CaRVTA's legislative proposal as follows (additions indicated in underline; deletions indicated in strikethrough).

1. Amend BPC section [4826.1](#) as follows:

4826.1. A veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who on ~~his or her~~ their own initiative, at the request of an owner, or at the request of someone other than the owner, renders emergency treatment to a sick or injured animal at the scene of an accident shall not be liable in damages to the owner of that animal in the absence of gross negligence

Analysis: Adding RVTs to this section is unnecessary as RVTs rendering emergency treatment have liability immunity (other than due to gross negligence) under BPC section [4840.6](#). The gender references can be addressed through an omnibus bill next session.

2. Add BPC section 4833 as follows:

4833. For purposes of this article, "veterinary technician specialist" or "VTS" means a registered veterinary technician in the state who holds a membership through a veterinary technician specialty organization recognized by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA), the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), or successor organizations.

Analysis: If the Board were to adjust levels of supervision based on specialty certifications, it might need to define the term veterinary technician specialist (VTS). The proposed definition for VTS is similar to the current language in BPC section [4883](#), subsection (s), which makes it a violation under the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act to make any statement, claim, or advertisement that a licensee or registrant is a veterinary specialist or board certifies unless the licensee or registrant is certified by an American Veterinary Medical Association-Recognized Veterinary Specialty Organization or a National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America-Recognized Veterinary Specialty Organization. Notably, the proposed language would require "membership" in a specialty organization, while BPC section 4883, subdivision (s), just requires a certification.

3. Add BPC section 4833.1 as follows:

4833.1. (a) A VTS shall maintain an active registration in good standing as a registered veterinary technician in the state and fulfill the requirements to maintain active membership as a VTS with the governing veterinary technician specialty organization.

(b) Upon request of the board, a VTS shall submit proof of active membership as a VTS with the governing veterinary technician specialty organization and any other relevant information determined by the board.

Analysis: This proposed section appears to be unnecessary. The VTS definition could specify parameters, if necessary. In addition, there are multiple ways to verify VTS certifications through primary source information. If the Board needed to verify whether an RVT held a specialty certification, it would not request the proof from the RVT.

4. Add BPC section 4833.2 as follows:

4833.2. (a) A person shall not use or assume the title “registered veterinary technician specialist,” “advanced practice registered veterinary technician,” “advanced practice veterinary technician,” “RVTS,” “APRVT,” “APVT,” or use any words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a VTS unless the person holds an active membership as a VTS.

(b) Except as otherwise authorized by [Chapter 6](#) (commencing with Section 2700) or [Chapter 6.5](#) (commencing with Section 2840), a person shall not use or assume the title “nurse,” “veterinary nurse,” “registered veterinary nurse,” “veterinary nurse specialist,” “certified veterinary nurse,” “certified veterinary nurse specialist,” “licensed veterinary nurse,” “nurse specialist,” “advanced practice veterinary nurse,” “advanced practice registered veterinary nurse,” “VN,” “RVN,” “VNS,” “CVN,” “CVNS,” “LVN,” “NS,” “APVN,” “APRVN,” or use any words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a veterinary nurse, with or without the veterinary descriptor, unless adopted as a type of licensee or regulation within this chapter.

Analysis: Like scope expansion legislation, title protections are generally pursued by the profession. If CaRVTA wishes to pursue additional title protections for RVTs with specialty certifications, it may be better suited to add to existing title protections under BPC section [4839.5](#). However, the proposed subdivision (b) would conflict with the current title protections under BPC section [680](#).

5. Add BPC section 4833.3 as follows:

4833.3. (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as otherwise provided by this section, a VTS shall not do any of the following:

(A) Perform surgery.

(B) Diagnose animal diseases.

(C) Provide a prognosis.

(D) Write a prescription for drugs, medicines, or appliances.

(2) The supervising veterinarian retains control of and authority over the care of the animal patient and may limit approved tasks within this section at their discretion.

(3) The degree of supervision by a licensed veterinarian over a VTS shall be consistent with standards of good veterinary medical practices and be no less than indirect supervision as that term is defined in Section [2034](#) of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(b) In addition to and with the appropriate change in supervision levels to the animal health care tasks in Section [2036](#) of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, as that regulation is in effect on the date of enactment of this section, a VTS may do the following:

(1) Perform the following minor procedures on an animal patient if a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship already exists and the supervising veterinarian is readily available by two-way audio or video communication:

(A) Collect dermal skin biopsies.

(B) Perform debridement of necrotic soft tissue for the purposes of wound care and management.

(C) Place abdominal, thoracic, esophagostomy or percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tubes, or tracheostomy breathing tubes, in an emergency, as defined in Section 4840.5.

(D) Perform percutaneous sampling or injections.

(2) (A) Except as otherwise required by federal law, act as an agent of the supervising veterinarian to perform in person a secondary physical exam and obtain the animal patient's history from the client when feasible for the purpose of inducing anesthesia or sedation that would allow for the order and administration of a Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance, or xylazine, in a registered veterinary premise for noninvasive imaging, cancer therapies that require sedation or anesthesia, and minor procedures as described under paragraph (1).

(B) The in-person secondary physical exam may be performed either unsupervised, pursuant to the order of the supervising veterinarian, or supervised while on a two-way audio and video synchronous communication with the supervising veterinarian.

(3) Induce and maintain anesthesia in accordance with Section 2032.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations only for noninvasive imaging, cancer therapies that require sedation or anesthesia, and minor procedures as described under paragraph (1).

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, noninvasive imaging includes magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography scans, positron emission tomography scans, and ultrasounds.

(c) A VTS shall only provide care for animal patients based on their specialty or the skills and knowledge needed to provide safe care of the animal patient, as determined by the supervising veterinarian.

(d) A VTS shall keep accurate records, including the animal patient's medical history.

(e) A VTS shall not receive a fee or other compensation for animal health care services other than the salary or other compensation paid by the veterinary clinic, veterinary practice, or veterinarian by which they are employed, or for what a registered veterinary technician may perform without supervision as set forth in subdivision (e) of Section 4840.

(f) The supervising veterinarian is individually responsible and liable for the acts delegated to and performed by the VTS. This section does not relieve the VTS of any responsibility or liability for any of their own acts or omissions.

Analysis: This section is predominately scope expansion that can only be accomplished through legislation.

No person can practice veterinary medicine, as defined in BPC section [4826](#), unless they are licensed (BPC § [4825](#)). RVTs can practice veterinary medicine, but only under the supervision of a veterinarian (BPC § [4836](#)). RVTs are authorized to perform animal health care services not otherwise prohibited by law under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed or authorized to practice in this state (BPC § [4840](#)).

BPC section [4840.2](#) specifically prohibits RVTs from performing the following health care services:

(a) Surgery.

(b) Diagnosis and prognosis of animal diseases.

(c) Prescribing of drugs, medicine, and appliances.

California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section [2036](#) lists animal health care tasks RVTs may perform under specified levels of supervision. CCR, title 16, section 2036, subsection (a), mirrors the prohibited services in BPC section [4840.2](#).

The Board can choose to move specified procedures required for direct supervision listed in CCR, title 16, section 2036, subsection (b) (below), to indirect supervision if an RVT has a certification in the specific specialty.

(b) An R.V.T. may perform the following procedures only under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian:

(1) Induce anesthesia;

(2) Perform dental extractions;

(3) Suture cutaneous and subcutaneous tissues, gingiva, and oral mucous membranes;

(4) Create a relief hole in the skin to facilitate placement of an intravascular catheter;

(5) Drug compounding from bulk substances.

For example, if an RVT maintains an active certification from the [Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia & Analgesia](#) or the [Academy of Veterinary Dental Technicians](#) (AVDT), the Board could authorize that RVT to induce anesthesia or perform the dental extractions under indirect supervision.

In theory, this could further the Board's goal in removing unnecessary regulatory barriers to access to care. However, for reasons discussed below, the Subcommittee believes significantly more research is necessary before the Board considers amending any supervision requirements.

Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS)

The VTS credential is awarded through specialty academies recognized by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America ([NAVTA](#)) and the Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties ([CVTS](#)). RVTs obtain VTS credentials through NAVTA/CVTS-approved specialty academies. The list of approved academies can found [here](#).

In general, the academies have the following commonalities:

- All applicants must be a credentialed¹ technician
 - Several academies also require or strongly encourage NAVTA membership, related academy membership, specialty association membership, proof of current licensure, or additional eligibility such as AALAS/CALAS laboratory animal credentials.
- Substantial, recent specialty experience
 - Experience commonly ranges from 4,000 to 10,000+ total or specialty-related hours. Many academies require experience to be completed within a recent 3-, 4-, 5-, or 7-year window and often require a defined percentage of the applicant's work time to be spent in the specialty.
- Specialty-specific continuing education (CE) requirements
 - CE requirements commonly specify specialty relevance, minimum hours, recency, provider qualifications, acceptable formats, proof of attendance, and limits on online, in-house, non-interactive, or non-specialty CE. Some academies also require wet labs, category-specific CE distribution, or CE linked directly to an advanced skills checklist.
- Multi-modal and practice-based competency documentation
 - Academies commonly require combinations of skills lists, case logs, case reports, CE logs, time sheets, professional histories, recommendation letters, letters of intent, mentorship documentation, supervisor or specialist attestation, and examination questions. These materials document applied clinical reasoning and advanced practice exposure, not only attendance at courses.
- Examination remains final checkpoint
 - Pathways generally require academy or board approval to sit for a certifying examination after credentialing review. Exams may include written, multiple-choice, practical, oral, simulation, audiovisual, or computer-based components, and several academies describe psychometric, Angoff, or committee-approved passing-score processes.
- Credential maintenance is a major governance feature, not an afterthought
 - Most academies describe ongoing maintenance through five-year certification, recertification, renewal, or recredentialing cycles. Requirements may include CE or point accumulation, professional development, academy service, examination-question submission, retaking the certifying exam, dues compliance, and maintenance of the underlying technician credential. Lapse can lead to suspension, loss of

¹ Equivalent to "registered" veterinary technician in California

title, certificate repossession, re-examination, or full reapplication depending on the academy.

Additional Research Necessary

The Subcommittee believes additional research is necessary to understand the oversight of the academies and the differences within each specialty certification. The Subcommittee has made multiple attempts to meet with NAVTA representatives to understand the academy approval process and the oversight but has received no response.

The Subcommittee was able to meet with the CVTS Chair, which helped shed some light on the process, but a meeting with NAVTA is still necessary.

Concerns have been raised that many of the examinations are not psychometrically sound and do not properly test for competency. Some academies specifically describe their examination method, but more research needs to be done in this area.

Concerns also have been raised that veterinarians in general do not understand the education and experience required for each specialty certification. As such, they are not comfortable determining whether an RVT with a specified specialty would be competent to perform a procedure with less supervision. So, even if the Board amended the regulation to allow for a lower level of supervision, the supervising veterinarian still may not allow RVTs to perform at that level.

Before pursuing any regulatory changes, the Subcommittee would like to continue researching these issues and report back to the MDC at its next meeting.

6. Amend BPC section [4840](#) as follows:

4840. [...] (e) Registered veterinary technicians may, without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, administer or apply oral, topical, subcutaneous injectable medications, or medical devices, to an animal following a written prescription from a nonsupervising veterinarian outside of a registered veterinary premises setting.

Analysis: This is a scope expansion that CaRVTA may choose to pursue through legislation.

Specialty Academy Conflict

During its research, the Subcommittee became aware of AVDT's [Extraction Position Statement](#). This statement is in direct conflict with California law allowing RVTs to perform dental extractions under direct supervision. (CCR, tit. 16, § [2036](#), subs. (b)(2).) AVDT makes it clear that their position "supersedes state practice acts" that if a AVDT member violates this policy, "The VTS (Dentistry) title will be revoked permanently."

The Subcommittee raises this issue for awareness, as it may contribute to an access to care issue. RVTs who are more specialized in dentistry likely will not perform any dental extractions due to the threat of losing their credential. At the same time, RVTs who may want additional dentistry foundation before performing dental extractions would not seek the dentistry credential.

Requested Action:

The Board did not seek any recommendation at this time. The MDC is asked to discuss the information presented and provide feedback. After the meeting, the MDC Chair will summarize the discussion and provide a report to the Board during its October 2026 meeting.

Attachment:

1. CaRVTA's 2025 Legislative Proposal (Unbacked Bill RN 25 01551)

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that a national shortage of veterinarians and veterinary team members has made access to animal health care more difficult and costly. That challenge is even greater in rural, production animal farm settings, specialty care centers, shelter-rescue settings, for animals needing in-home care, and in low-income and unhoused populations.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to do all of the following:

(1) Empower veterinarians and their trusted registered veterinary technicians, and registered veterinary technicians with advanced certification as veterinary technician specialists, to expand their scope of practice and allow veterinary technician specialists to practice under modified levels of supervision to increase access to care.

(2) Decrease the burden on both consumers and veterinarians by expanding the scope of practice and changing levels of supervision for qualified professionals.

(3) Maintain California's competitive edge by retaining nonveterinarian professionals within the state and encouraging new professionals to relocate to the state.

SEC. 2. Section 4826.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4826.1. A veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who on ~~his or her~~ their own initiative, at the request of an owner, or at the request of someone other than the owner, renders emergency treatment to a sick or injured animal at the scene of an accident shall not be liable in damages to the owner of that animal in the absence of gross negligence.

SEC. 3. Article 2.2 (commencing with Section 4833) is added to Chapter 11 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, to read:

Article 2.2. Veterinary Technician Specialists

4833. For purposes of this article, "veterinary technician specialist" or "VTS" means a registered veterinary technician in the state who holds a membership through a veterinary technician specialty organization recognized by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA), the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), or successor organizations.

4833.1. (a) A VTS shall maintain an active registration in good standing as a registered veterinary technician in the state and fulfill the requirements to maintain active membership as a VTS with the governing veterinary technician specialty organization.

(b) Upon request of the board, a VTS shall submit proof of active membership as a VTS with the governing veterinary technician specialty organization and any other relevant information determined by the board.

4833.2. (a) A person shall not use or assume the title "registered veterinary technician specialist," "advanced practice registered veterinary technician," "advanced practice veterinary technician," "RVTS," "APRVT," "APVT," or use any words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a VTS unless the person holds an active membership as a VTS.



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(b) Except as otherwise authorized by Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 2700) or Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 2840), a person shall not use or assume the title "nurse," "veterinary nurse," "registered veterinary nurse," "veterinary nurse specialist," "certified veterinary nurse," "certified veterinary nurse specialist," "licensed veterinary nurse," "nurse specialist," "advanced practice veterinary nurse," "advanced practice registered veterinary nurse," "VN," "RVN," "VNS," "CVN," "CVNS," "LVN," "NS," "APVN," "APRVN," or use any words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a veterinary nurse, with or without the veterinary descriptor, unless adopted as a type of licensee or regulation within this chapter.

4833.3. (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as otherwise provided by this section, a VTS shall not do any of the following:

- (A) Perform surgery.
- (B) Diagnose animal diseases.
- (C) Provide a prognosis.
- (D) Write a prescription for drugs, medicines, or appliances.

(2) The supervising veterinarian retains control of and authority over the care of the animal patient and may limit approved tasks within this section at their discretion.

(3) The degree of supervision by a licensed veterinarian over a VTS shall be consistent with standards of good veterinary medical practices and be no less than indirect supervision as that term is defined in Section 2034 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

(b) In addition to and with the appropriate change in supervision levels to the animal health care tasks in Section 2036 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, as that regulation is in effect on the date of enactment of this section, a VTS may do the following:

(1) Perform the following minor procedures on an animal patient if a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship already exists and the supervising veterinarian is readily available by two-way audio or video communication:

- (A) Collect dermal skin biopsies.
- (B) Perform debridement of necrotic soft tissue for the purposes of wound care and management.
- (C) Place abdominal, thoracic, esophagostomy or percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tubes, or tracheostomy breathing tubes, in an emergency, as defined in Section 4840.5.
- (D) Perform percutaneous sampling or injections.

(2) (A) Except as otherwise required by federal law, act as an agent of the supervising veterinarian to perform in person a secondary physical exam and obtain the animal patient's history from the client when feasible for the purpose of inducing anesthesia or sedation that would allow for the order and administration of a Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance, or xylazine, in a registered veterinary premise for noninvasive imaging, cancer therapies that require sedation or anesthesia, and minor procedures as described under paragraph (1).

(B) The in-person secondary physical exam may be performed either unsupervised, pursuant to the order of the supervising veterinarian, or supervised while on a two-way audio and video synchronous communication with the supervising veterinarian.



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(3) Induce and maintain anesthesia in accordance with Section 2032.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations only for noninvasive imaging, cancer therapies that require sedation or anesthesia, and minor procedures as described under paragraph (1).

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, noninvasive imaging includes magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography scans, positron emission tomography scans, and ultrasounds.

(c) A VTS shall only provide care for animal patients based on their specialty or the skills and knowledge needed to provide safe care of the animal patient, as determined by the supervising veterinarian.

(d) A VTS shall keep accurate records, including the animal patient's medical history.

(e) A VTS shall not receive a fee or other compensation for animal health care services other than the salary or other compensation paid by the veterinary clinic, veterinary practice, or veterinarian by which they are employed, or for what a registered veterinary technician may perform without supervision as set forth in subdivision (e) of Section 4840.

(f) The supervising veterinarian is individually responsible and liable for the acts delegated to and performed by the VTS. This section does not relieve the VTS of any responsibility or liability for any of their own acts or omissions.

SEC. 4. Section 4840 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4840. (a) Registered veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants are approved to perform those animal health care services prescribed by law under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed or authorized to practice in this state.

(b) (1) Registered veterinary technicians may perform animal health care services on those animals impounded by a state, county, city, or city and county agency pursuant to the direct order, written order, or telephonic order of a veterinarian licensed or authorized to practice in this state.

(2) An order established by a veterinarian pursuant to paragraph (1) may include any of the following information:

(A) Time periods by which an impounded animal is required to be assessed at intake and monitored while in the custody of an agency.

(B) Protocols to address the treatment of common medical conditions encountered in impounded animals.

(C) Protocols for controlling infectious and zoonotic diseases and for preventing environmental contamination.

(D) Protocols for controlling the acute pain of an impounded animal.

(E) Communication requirements between the registered veterinary technician and the supervising veterinarian.

(F) Euthanasia criteria for medically related cases.

(c) Registered veterinary technicians may apply for registration from the federal Drug Enforcement Administration that authorizes the direct purchase of sodium pentobarbital for the performance of euthanasia as provided for in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 4827 without the supervision or authorization of a licensed veterinarian.

(d) Registered veterinary technicians may act as an agent of the supervising veterinarian in establishing the veterinarian-client-patient relationship for the purposes



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of administering preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications for the control or eradication of apparent or anticipated internal or external parasites in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 4826.7.

(e) Registered veterinary technicians may, without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, administer or apply oral, topical, subcutaneous injectable medications, or medical devices, to an animal following a written prescription from a nonsupervising veterinarian outside of a registered veterinary premise setting.

SEC. 5. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.

as introduced, _____.

General Subject: Veterinary medicine: veterinary technician specialists.

Existing law, the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine by the Veterinary Medical Board. Existing law prohibits any person from practicing veterinary medicine, as defined, without a license. Existing law makes a violation of these provisions a crime.

Existing law, in the absence of gross negligence, prohibits a veterinarian who renders emergency treatment to a sick or injured animal at the scene of an accident from being liable in damages to the owner of the animal, as specified.

This bill would additionally prohibit a registered veterinary technician who renders emergency treatment to a sick or injured animal, as specified, from being liable in damages to the owner of the animal in the absence of gross negligence.

Existing law authorizes a registered veterinary technician to perform limited duties related to the practice of veterinary medicine under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, as specified. Existing law authorizes a registered veterinary technician to act as an agent of a supervising veterinarian for the purpose of establishing a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to administer preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications, as specified.

This bill would authorize a registered veterinary technician to administer or apply oral, topical, subcutaneous injectable medications, or medical devices, to an animal without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, as specified.

This bill would require a veterinary technician specialist (VTS), as defined, to maintain an active registration in good standing as a registered veterinary technician and fulfill the requirements to maintain active membership as a VTS with the governing veterinary technician specialty organization, as described. Upon request of the board, the bill would require a VTS to submit proof of active membership as a VTS and any other relevant information, as specified. The bill would prohibit a person from using specified titles, including "registered veterinary technician specialist" or any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a VTS unless the person has met prescribed requirements.

This bill would prohibit a VTS from doing certain activities, including writing a prescription for drugs, medicines, or appliances, except as specified, and authorize a VTS to, among other things, perform prescribed minor procedures on an animal patient under specified circumstances, as provided. The bill would require a VTS to only provide care for animal patients based on their specialty or the skills and knowledge needed to provide safe care of the animal patient, as determined by the supervising veterinarian. The bill would require a VTS to keep accurate records, including the animal patient's medical history. The bill would prohibit a VTS from receiving a fee or other compensation for animal health care services other than the salary or other compensation paid by the veterinary clinic, veterinary practice, or veterinarian by



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which they are employed, or for what a registered veterinarian technician may perform without supervision, as specified.

Because the bill would impose new requirements and prohibitions under the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, the violation of which is a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.



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