

By: Lopez of Cameron, et al.

H.B. No. 3364

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3364:

By: Guillen

C.S.H.B. No. 3364

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of a veterinarian-client-patient
3 relationship and to the practice of veterinary medicine by
4 telephone or electronic means.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 801.351, Occupations Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

8 (d) After a veterinarian-client-patient relationship is
9 established, veterinary medicine may be practiced by telephone or
10 electronic means if otherwise practiced in accordance with the
11 requirements of this chapter.

12 (e) Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (d), in a medical
13 emergency, a veterinarian who reasonably believes an animal's
14 condition would result in irreparable harm or suffering may provide
15 care by telephone or electronic means without establishing a
16 veterinarian-client-patient relationship if that care is otherwise
17 provided in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 801, Occupations Code, is
19 amended by adding Sections 801.365 and 801.366 to read as follows:

20 Sec. 801.365. STANDARDS FOR VETERINARY PRACTICE BY
21 TELEPHONE OR ELECTRONIC MEANS; JURISDICTION. (a) Notwithstanding
22 any other law, a veterinarian who practices veterinary medicine by
23 telephone or electronic means:

24 (1) must possess a valid license to practice

1 veterinary medicine in this state;
2 (2) must be routinely engaged in the practice of
3 veterinary medicine in this state;
4 (3) shall practice in accordance with this chapter and
5 rules adopted under this chapter; and
6 (4) shall comply with all federal laws applicable to
7 the practice of veterinary medicine.

8 (b) The board has jurisdiction over a veterinarian's
9 practice of veterinary medicine in this state by telephone or
10 electronic means regardless of where the veterinarian is physically
11 located.

12 Sec. 801.366. AUTHORITY TO PRESCRIBE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES
13 BY TELEPHONE OR ELECTRONIC MEANS. A veterinarian may not prescribe
14 for the treatment of an animal a controlled substance as defined by
15 Section 481.002, Health and Safety Code, by telephone or electronic
16 means unless the veterinarian has:

17 (1) examined the animal in person; or
18 (2) made medically appropriate and timely visits to
19 the premises on which the animal is kept.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.