

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

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) must possess a valid license to practice

veterinary medicine in this state;

(2) must be routinely engaged in the practice of
veterinary medicine in this state;

(3) shall practice in accordance with this chapter and
rules adopted under this chapter; and

(4) shall comply with all federal laws applicable to
the practice of veterinary medicine.

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

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

(1) examined the animal in person; or

(2) made medically appropriate and timely visits to
the premises on which the animal is kept.

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