

VOTE YES



HB25-1285

Implement Proposition 129 as Voters Intended

Effective Regulation for Veterinary Professional Associates

HB 25-1285 ensures the successful implementation of Proposition 129, establishing the Veterinary Professional Associate (VPA) role in alignment with the will of the voters. It provides statutory structure for effective regulation needed to ensure quality care and safety for Colorado's animals. It will enable the State Board of Veterinary Medicine (SBVM) to establish rules that protect consumers, animal patients, and public health – and ensure the success of Veterinary Professional Associates in the veterinary profession.

HB25-1285 Provides Guidance to the State Board:

- Delegation and supervision by veterinarians to VPAs
- Supervisory agreement between the veterinarian and VPA to be filed with the Board
- Qualifications, registration, credentialing, and national competency examination of VPAs as well as continuing education requirements
- Responsibility of the supervising licensed veterinarian for the VPA's performance
- Informed consent guidance for both transparency and to increase consumer acceptance and confidence in new VPA position
- Equivalent registration pathway for Veterinary Technician Specialists

HB25-1285 Clarifies FDA Veterinary Prescribing:

- The bill clarifies Federal law on veterinary prescribing authority to maintain alignment with the Food and Drug Administration
- Only licensed veterinarians can prescribe medications under federal law
- Maintains Colorado Practice Act definition of the Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship to match the Federal definition of the VCPR so patient care can include legal access to the full compendium of medications

How is This Different from Veterinary Legislation Passed in 2024?

- HB 24-1047 focused on expanding the role of Registered Veterinary Technicians
- HB 24-1048 focused on providing veterinary services through telehealth
- Proposition 129 created a brand-new veterinary role, Veterinary Professional Associate (VPA), that does not now exist. HB 25-1285 is essential for creating new oversight and accountability structures for the VPA

Still have questions? Please contact CACVT/CVMA/AVMA Lobbyists:

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Supported by:

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