

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1099

5 By: Representative Vaught  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING  
9 BOARD TO PROMULGATE RULES REGARDING TELEHEALTH AND  
10 TELEMEDICINE AND TO ISSUE RESTRICTED LICENSES FOR  
11 VETERINARIANS; TO REPLACE REFERENCES TO THE  
12 SECRETARY-TREASURER AND THE EXECUTIVE SECERTARY OF  
13 THE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD WITH THE  
14 DIRECTOR OF THE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD;  
15 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

18 TO AUTHORIZE THE VETERINARY MEDICAL  
19 EXAMINING BOARD TO PROMULGATE RULES  
20 REGARDING TELEHEALTH AND TELEMEDICINE  
21 AND TO ISSUE RESTRICTED LICENSES FOR  
22 VETERINARIANS.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-101-203(12), concerning the powers and  
29 duties of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (12) Promulgate rules:

32 (A) Limiting ~~limiting~~ the amount of Schedule II narcotics  
33 that may be prescribed and dispensed by licensees of the board; and

34 (B) Outlining the use of telehealth and telemedicine in  
35 the practice of veterinary medicine.  
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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-101-304(a), concerning temporary permits  
2 for veterinarians, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director of the Veterinary Medical  
4 Examining Board may issue without examination a temporary permit to practice  
5 veterinary medicine in this state to a qualified applicant for a license  
6 pending examination and provided that the temporary permit shall expire the  
7 day after the notice or results of the first examination given after the  
8 permit is issued.

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10 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-101-309(a)(2), concerning renewals and  
11 reinstatements of licenses by the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (2) Not later than March 1 each year, the board shall ~~mail-a~~  
14 provide a written notice to each licensed veterinarian, veterinary  
15 technician, and veterinary technologist that his or her license or  
16 certificate will expire on March 31 and shall provide a renewal application  
17 form.

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19 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 17-101-312(c), concerning civil penalties  
20 for violations of the provisions relating to the practice of veterinary  
21 medicine, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) One-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sums assessed as fines under this chapter  
23 shall be paid into the general fund of the county wherein ~~it~~ the fine is  
24 assessed, and one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sums assessed as fines under this chapter  
25 shall be deposited with the ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director of the Veterinary  
26 Medical Examining Board and credited to the account of the Veterinary Medical  
27 Examining Board.

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29 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 17-101-313 is amended to read as follows:  
30 17-101-313. Abandoned animals.

31 (a) Unless otherwise provided by contract between the veterinarian and  
32 his or her client, a veterinarian may dispose of any animal abandoned in his  
33 or her care if he or she gives written notice of his or her intention to do  
34 so by ~~certified mail sent~~ sending the notice to the last known physical or  
35 email address of the client.

36 (b) The veterinarian ~~must~~ shall allow the client twelve (12) days from

1 the ~~mailing of the certified letter~~ issuance of the notice in which to  
 2 retrieve the animal.

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 4 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 17-101-314(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
 5 penalties of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board for practicing without a  
 6 license, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a)(1)(A) If upon completion of an investigation the ~~Executive~~  
 8 ~~Secretary~~ Director of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board has probable  
 9 cause to believe that a veterinarian or an unlicensed person acting as a  
 10 veterinarian has violated the provisions of this chapter, he or she may issue  
 11 a citation to the veterinarian or unlicensed person, as provided in this  
 12 section.

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 14 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 17-101-314(b), concerning the penalties of  
 15 the Veterinary Medical Examining Board for practicing without a license, is  
 16 amended to read as follows:

17 (b) Before any citation may be issued, the ~~executive secretary~~  
 18 director shall submit the alleged violation for review to at least one (1)  
 19 member of the board.

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 21 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 101, Subchapter 3, is  
 22 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 17-101-318. Veterinarians – Restricted license.

24 (a) The Director of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board may issue a  
 25 restricted license to a person who has graduated from an accredited or  
 26 approved college of veterinary medicine but has not passed the North American  
 27 Veterinary Licensing Examination, or its future equivalent, to engage in the  
 28 practice of veterinary medicine under the direct supervision of a licensed  
 29 veterinarian.

30 (b) A restricted license shall be issued by the Veterinary Medical  
 31 Examining Board upon the receipt of the following:

32 (1) A completed application as described in § 17-101-301 and the  
 33 application fee established by the board, if not previously submitted during  
 34 the applicant’s final year of veterinary school;

35 (2) A restricted license fee established by the board;

36 (3) A letter of recommendation from the supervising licensed

1 veterinarian; and

2 (4) Written confirmation that the applicant is scheduled to take  
 3 the next available North American Veterinary Licensing Examination, or its  
 4 future equivalent.

5 (c) If the applicant fails to pass the North American Veterinary  
 6 Licensing Examination, or its future equivalent, after receiving a restricted  
 7 license, the applicant may be issued another restricted license by submitting  
 8 the following:

9 (1) The restricted license fee established by the board;

10 (2) A letter of recommendation from the supervising licensed  
 11 veterinarian; and

12 (3) Written confirmation that the applicant is scheduled to take  
 13 the next available North American Veterinary Licensing Examination, or its  
 14 future equivalent.

15 (d)(1) A restricted license shall expire the day after the results of  
 16 the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination, or its future  
 17 equivalent, are made known to the applicant.

18 (2) An applicant shall not be issued more than three (3)  
 19 restricted licenses.

20 (e) The applicant is eligible for an unrestricted license to practice  
 21 veterinary medicine upon receiving a passing score on the North American  
 22 Veterinary Licensing Examination, or its future equivalent, if all other  
 23 requirements are met for the unrestricted license.

24 (f) A restricted licensee shall not apply:

25 (1) For a United States Drug Enforcement Administration  
 26 registration; or

27 (2) To become an accredited veterinarian through the United  
 28 States Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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