



963556

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/09/2021	.	
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The Committee on Regulated Industries (Rodriguez) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Delete lines 31 - 35
and insert:
relationship may be established in person or by means of
veterinary telemedicine if audio-visual technology is used to
establish such relationship. A physical examination is not
required for the veterinarian to assume responsibility for
making medical judgments or providing treatment.

(14) "Veterinary telemedicine" means the practice of



11 veterinary medicine in a remote setting, including through the
12 use of telephone or audio-visual technology or by other means
13 consistent with the veterinarian's professional judgment, as
14 long as the veterinarian/client/patient relationship is
15 established either in person or by audio-visual technology.

16 Section 2. Section 474.2021, Florida Statutes, is created
17 to read:

18 474.2021 Veterinary telemedicine.—

19 (1) A veterinarian may practice veterinary telemedicine.

20 (2) A veterinarian may not prescribe controlled substances
21 if the veterinarian/client/patient relationship has been
22 established remotely under this section and the veterinarian has
23 not previously performed a physical examination, unless the
24 controlled substance is prescribed for the following:

25 (a) Inpatient treatment at an animal clinic or hospital; or

26 (b) The treatment of a patient receiving hospice services.

27 (3) A veterinarian must hold a current license to practice
28 veterinary medicine in this state in order to practice
29 veterinary telemedicine.

30 (4) The board has jurisdiction over a veterinarian
31 practicing veterinary telemedicine in this state, regardless of
32 where the veterinarian's physical offices are located. The
33 practice of veterinary telemedicine in accordance with this
34 section is not a standard of care violation, and a veterinarian
35 may not be disciplined solely for practicing veterinary
36 telemedicine.

37
38 ===== D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====

39 And the directory clause is amended as follows:



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40 Delete line 25
41 and insert:
42 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (14) is added to that
43 section, to read:
44
45 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====
46 And the title is amended as follows:
47 Between lines 4 and 5
48 insert:
49 defining the term "veterinary telemedicine"; creating
50 s. 474.2021, F.S.; authorizing veterinarians to
51 practice veterinary telemedicine; prohibiting
52 veterinarians from prescribing controlled substances;
53 providing exceptions; providing licensure requirements
54 to practice veterinary telemedicine; providing
55 jurisdiction of the Florida Board of Veterinary
56 Medicine; providing construction;