

By Senator Calatayud

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to veterinary prescription disclosure;
creating s. 474.224, F.S.; requiring a veterinarian or
authorized member of veterinary staff to inform a
client of the right to receive a written prescription
to be filled at a pharmacy of the client's choice or
the option to have the prescription filled at the
veterinary establishment; defining the term "written
prescription"; requiring that such disclosure be made
in specified manners; requiring that the disclosure
include an acknowledgement signed by the client;
providing requirements for the acknowledgement;
providing that such acknowledgement be documented in
the patient's medical records; providing that such
acknowledgement may not make certain statements,
notifications, warnings, or assumptions; requiring a
veterinary establishment to post a specified sign in a
certain area; providing applicability; providing an
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 474.224, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

474.224 Veterinary prescription disclosure.—

(1)(a) Before dispensing a prescription medication, a
licensed veterinarian or an authorized member of the veterinary
staff must clearly inform a client of:

1. The client's right to receive a written prescription for

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the medication that can be filled at the pharmacy of the
client's choice.

2. If the veterinary establishment is able to fill the
prescription, the option to have the prescription filled at the
veterinary establishment.

For purposes of this chapter, "written prescription" includes
paper prescriptions delivered via manual transmission or
electronic prescriptions delivered via direct transmission to a
pharmacy.

(b) Each disclosure required under this subsection shall be
made:

1. Verbally, if the consultation with the client is in
person; or

2. Electronically, if the consultation with the client is
through veterinary telehealth.

(c) The option chosen by the client under paragraph (a)
must be documented by the veterinarian or an authorized member
of the veterinary staff with a one-time acknowledgement that is
signed by the client and that states that the client is aware of
the options in paragraph (a).

1. The acknowledgement must be in substantially the
following form:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ABILITY TO
RECEIVE WRITTEN PRESCRIPTION

I, ...(name of client)..., understand the veterinary client's
right to receive a written prescription for medication that can
be filled by the pharmacy of my choice or my veterinarian, as

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provided in s. 474.224, Florida Statutes.

Signature:...(signature of applicant)...Date:...(date)...

2. An acknowledgment signed by a client under this section shall be documented in the patient's medical record.

3. An acknowledgement under this section may not make a statement, notification, warning, or assumption regarding the efficacy or safety of filling prescriptions through an outside pharmacy.

(d) A veterinary establishment shall post a clear and conspicuous sign near the point of sale or where checkout occurs which substantially states the following:

FLORIDA LAW GIVES THE VETERINARY CLIENT THE OPTION TO:

1. RECEIVE A WRITTEN PRESCRIPTION FOR MEDICATION THAT CAN BE FILLED AT THE PHARMACY OF YOUR CHOICE; OR

2. HAVE YOUR PRESCRIPTION FILLED AT THE VETERINARY ESTABLISHMENT, IF THE VETERINARY ESTABLISHMENT IS ABLE TO FILL THE PRESCRIPTION.

(2) This section does not apply if:

(a) Immediate dispensing of medication is necessary to preserve life or prevent suffering; or

(b) The prescription is for a controlled substance, the dispensing of which is restricted by federal or state law.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.