



## Legislative Update July 2024



In late March, the [CVMA Board of Governors](#) took positions on California legislation that affects the veterinary profession. View the legislative positions [here](#). For more information on the legislative bills being followed by the CVMA this year, log in to [cvma.net](#) and then visit the [Legislative Action Center](#) in the Advocacy section.

Among the top CVMA Priority Bills include:

### **[SB 1233](#) (Wilk): High-Quality High-Volume Spay Neuter Certification Programs**

***CVMA-Sponsored Bill***

**STATUS: AWAITING REVIEW IN THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**



This bill seeks to fund high-quality high-volume spay neuter (HQHVSN) certification programs at both of California's two veterinary schools. The programs would be available to students as an elective course and would also be offered to licensees as continuing education. The program would teach veterinarians and veterinary students HQHVSN surgical techniques and would teach RVTs surgical prep, assisting, and recovery skills.

Read the CVMA Sponsorship Support letter and fact sheet [here](#).

Read the California Veterinary Medical Board Support letter [here](#).

---

### **[AB 3029](#) (Bains) and [SB 1502](#) (Ashby): Xylazine Controlled Substance Scheduling**

***CVMA Position: Support***

**STATUS: AB 3029 AWAITING SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REVIEW**

**SB 1502 BILL HELD/ DISCONTINUED IN THE ASSEMBLY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**



This important legislation will add xylazine to the list of California controlled substances while incorporating provisions that allow continued access to the drug by licensed

veterinarians in the course of legitimate practice. The CVMA has working closely with the authors to help align this legislation with the federal Combatting Illicit Use of Xylazine Act. Only AB 3029 will progress to appropriations review as SB 1502 was held in the Assembly Public Safety Committee after the author was unwilling to accept amendments to the bill recommended by committee consultants and the committee chair.

---

**[AB 3063](#) (McKinnor): Pharmacies: compounding.**

**CVMA Position:** *Support*

**STATUS: AWAITING REVIEW IN THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**



This bill will ensure that the sole acts of tablet splitting, tablet crushing, capsule opening, or the addition of a flavoring agent are exempted from the definition of compounding. Veterinarians often need to be able to perform these basic drug alterations in order to facilitate effective patient dosing.

---

**[AB 814](#) (Lowenthal): Veterinary medicine: animal physical rehabilitation.**

**CVMA Position:** *Oppose*

**STATUS: WITHDRAWN BY AUTHOR**



This bill was a repeated attempt to expand physical therapist scope of practice to permit them to open their own practices and work on animals without veterinarian supervision. [Current state law](#) permits physical therapists to work on animals, but within a registered veterinary premises, with a veterinarian licensee manager, and under direct veterinary supervision. But current law is unsatisfactory to physical therapists because they would like to be able to practice on animals via an offsite case referral, unsupervised by a veterinarian. This bill thus seeks to:

- Add animals to the physical therapy practice act to define the practice of physical therapy to include animals
- Allow physical therapists, after a largely self-guided certification course that focuses on dogs, to work unsupervised on *all* species of animals.
- Create a disparity between the [minimum standards required in practices operated by veterinarians](#) when compared to those operated by physical therapists.

Read the CVMA coalition opposition letter [here](#) and additional materials/ fact sheets [here](#).  
Read the California Veterinary Medical Board opposition letter [here](#).

This bill is currently awaiting review in the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee. The CVMA will be testifying in opposition to this bill during the committee meeting and will be notifying members in the districts of Senate Business and Professions committee members to request opposition letters.

---

**AB 2133 (Kalra): Veterinary medicine: registered veterinary technicians.**

**CVMA Position: *Oppose***

**STATUS: BILL HELD/DISCONTINUED IN THE ASSEMBLY  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**



This bill would have permitted registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to perform neutering surgeries on cats. The CVMA greatly values and supports the RVT profession, but feels that this bill was dangerous because RVTs are not trained in surgery as part of their licensure education. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file and will not progress this year.

Read the CVMA Opposition Letter and additional opposition facts [here](#).

Read the AVMA Opposition letter [here](#).

Read the California Veterinary Medical Board Opposition letter [here](#).

---

**AB 2954 (Carrillo): Cats: declawing procedures: prohibition.**

**CVMA Position: *Oppose***

**STATUS: DEAD FOR THE YEAR**



This is the seventh attempt by animal rights activists to ban the declawing of domestic cats in California statute. The CVMA is opposed to this action because the decision to perform this procedure should be left up to veterinarians on a case-by-case basis through careful consideration of circumstances and following extensive client consultation pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. In addition, the profession has done an excellent job of regulating itself in regard to this surgical procedure, and it is rarely performed presently.