



Legislative Update May 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 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS



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.

[AB 3029](#) (Bains) and [SB 1502](#) (Ashby): Xylazine Controlled Substance Scheduling
CVMA Position: Support
STATUS: BOTH BILLS ARE AWAITING REVIEW IN APPROPRIATIONS



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 is working closely with the authors to help align this legislation with the federal Combatting Illicit Use of Xylazine Act. Both bills are

recommended to move through their respective Appropriations committees with “consent” status.

AB 3063 (McKinnor): Pharmacies: compounding.

CVMA Position: *Support*

STATUS: AWAITING FLOOR VOTE IN THE ASSEMBLY



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

CVMA Position: *Oppose*

BILL STATUS: AWAITING ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS REVIEW



This bill will permit registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to perform neutering surgeries on cats. The CVMA greatly values and supports the RVT profession, but feels that this bill is dangerous because RVTs are not trained in surgery as part of their licensure education. According to the state Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) this bill will cost \$176,000 to implement. This cost exceeds the \$150,000 threshold to permit the bill to pass through the Assembly Appropriations committee with “consent” status. Therefore, the bill has been placed in the Appropriations suspense file where it will await review by the Appropriations committee in late May.

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

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

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

CVMA Position: *Oppose*

BILL 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.