

CA Law Prior to 2018

[CA Law as of 2018 \(SB 27\)](#)

[FDA Guidance For Industry #215](#)

Does not require a prescription for some medically important antimicrobial drugs administered to livestock.	Requires medically important antimicrobial drugs administered to livestock to be ordered by a licensed veterinarian through a prescription or feed directive pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, including drugs administered through feed, water, injection or orally.	Requires a prescription for medically important antimicrobial drugs administered through feed and water only.
Does not prohibit the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs for growth promotion or to improve feed efficiency	Prohibits the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs solely to promote weight gain or improve feed efficiency	Prohibits the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs for growth promotion or to improve feed efficiency
Does not limit the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs used for disease prevention.	Prohibits the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs to prevent disease in livestock unless a licensed veterinarian determines that the drugs are necessary.	Does not limit the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs used for disease prevention.
Does not limit the duration of use for medically important antimicrobial drugs	Limits the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs on an ongoing basis in livestock. The drugs must be authorized by a licensed veterinarian to treat and control disease or infection or to prevent disease in specific situations and the duration must be determined by a veterinarian.	Does not limit the duration of use for medically important antimicrobial drugs
Does not require antibiotic stewardship	Requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture to develop antibiotic stewardship programs to promote the judicious use of antibiotics in livestock.	Does not require antibiotic stewardship
Does not require data gathering	Requires the CDFA to gather data on medically important antimicrobial drug sales, usage and management practices in livestock in coordination with federal agencies. The bill upholds confidentiality as specified.	Does not require data gathering
Does not impose penalties on food producers	Imposes penalties on food producers for violations of this new law. Veterinarians will continue to be subject to the authority of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.	Does not impose penalties on food producers.