



MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 10, 2025
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Jessica Sieferman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 8. Presentation Regarding Allied Health Certifications Issued by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) and the Nevada Veterinary Board (NVB) – Michelle Shane, Executive Director, KBVE, and Jennifer Pedigo, Executive Director, NVB

For the last several years, the Board has been involved in discussions regarding human allied health professions practicing on animals. Recently, there has been a lot of interest from those professions for their respective boards to authorize and regulate their practice on animals. However, there are other state veterinary boards that issue certifications to human health professionals authorizing them to practice on animals.

During the Board meeting, the Executive Directors from the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners and the Nevada Veterinary Board will present on how they regulate allied health professionals within their states.

Since the posting of the January agenda, the Board received written public comments regarding these models. Those comments can be seen [here](#).

Attachments:

1. Presentation from the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners
2. Presentation from the Nevada Veterinary Board



kbve.ky.gov

Vet@ky.gov

502-564-5433

REGULATION OF THE ALLIED ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Michelle M. Shane, KBVE Executive Director



Learn more about the Kentucky Practice Act at <https://kbve.ky.gov/Pages/practice-act.aspx>



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) Composition
- Practice of Veterinary Medicine – A Recent History of Carveouts
- KBVE Practice Act Modernization
- Allied Animal Health Professional (AAHP) Permits
- New Legislative Initiatives



MEMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

1. **Chairman John C. Park, DVM**
 - Serving 2nd term
 - Equine
 - Paris, KY
2. **Vice Chairman Gene Smith, DVM**
 - Serving Expired 4th term (13+ years)
 - Small animal
 - Hazard, KY
3. **Dianne J. Dawes, DVM**
 - Serving 2nd term
 - Small animal
 - Georgetown, KY
4. **Tom M. Dorman, Citizen-at-Large**
 - Serving 1st term
 - Extensive regulatory background
 - Frankfort, KY
5. **Tim R. Gardner, DVM**
 - Serving 2nd term
 - Large animal
 - Scottsville, KY
6. **Stephanie M. Kennedy, DVM**
 - Serving 2nd term
 - Small animal
 - Frankfort, KY
7. **Philip E. Prater, DVM**
 - Serving 1st term
 - Large Animal
 - Hillsboro, KY
8. **Jennifer K. Quammen, DVM**
 - Serving 1st term
 - Small animal
 - Walton, KY
9. **Amy J. Staton, EdD, LVT**
 - Serving 3rd term
 - LVT Educator @ Morehead
 - Salt Lick, KY
10. **Steve Velasco, DVM**
 - Kentucky State Veterinarian
 - Proxy for KDA Commissioner Jonathan Shell
 - Versailles, KY
11. **TBD**
 - AAHP Permittee



PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE — A RECENT HISTORY OF CARVEOUTS



REPRODUCTIVE SPECIALISTS

- Late 1980's – early 1990's
- Reproductive specialists with a PhD performing embryo transfers
- After a long legislative battle, special exemption added for a few individuals
 - [KRS 321.200](#)
 - (1) No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any of the following:...
 - (i) Any person who holds a postgraduate degree in reproductive physiology or a related field, and who has performed embryo transfers in Kentucky during the five (5) years immediately preceding July 14, 1992, from performing embryo transfers on animals;...
- Now these exempted individuals are near retirement and their clients are looking for a veterinarian alternative
- Renewed petitions to KBVE for additional exemptions and carveouts
 - [KBVE Meeting Minutes 11/30/2023](#) – Page 5
 - [KBVE Meeting Minutes 02/08/2024](#) – Page 15-16



EQUINE DENTAL PROVIDERS (EDPs)

- Worked in Kentucky basically unchecked by the Board for more than four (4) decades
- Encouraged by veterinarians in busy parts of the Commonwealth who provided client referrals to EDPs
- Became a staple of the industry
- Also generated a lot of complaints from licensees in more rural areas of the state citing lay EDPs practicing veterinary medicine without a license



ANIMAL MASSAGE THERAPISTS (AMTs)

- In 2019, KBVE reached out to the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy (KBLMT)
 - Multiple stakeholder meetings
 - Boards did not agree – e.g., required hours of training, CE, veterinarian oversight, etc.
- In 2020, bill filed ([20 RS HB 346](#))
 - Initiative returned to primary lobby group for the professional association of massage therapists
 - COVID
- 2020-2023 – KBVE Practice Act Modernization
- 2023-24 – Renewed talks with KBLMT (new board composition)



KENTUCKY VETERINARY MEDICINE PRACTICE ACT MODERNIZATION



THE KENTUCKY VETERINARY MEDICINE PRACTICE ACT

Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) Chapter 321

- **Practice Act History Highlights**
 - **1942** – Creation of the Board
 - **1948** – Repeal of all statutes; passage of new statutory package
 - **1992, 1998** – Added statutes related to Board powers and duties, definitions, defined VCPR, and more...
 - **2020** – added provisions for Animal Abuse Reporting
 - **2020-23** – Complete Modernization
 - **Addition of new credential: Allied Animal Health Professional (AAHP) Permit**



PROCESS FOR CHANGE

May 2020 – June 29, 2023

- Initial research and drafting
- Outreach to professional association (Sept 2021)
- Early regulation development
- Regional meetings (2022)
- Broader stakeholder outreach (commodity, etc.)
- Initial filing (Feb 2022)
- KDA Commissioner Dialogues on Veterinary Shortages
- Preliminary testimony at L&O (July 2021)
- Conference presentations
- Species specific Zooms
- Discussion draft regulation publication (Jan 2023)
- HB 167 filing (Feb 2023 – Rep. Matt Koch)
- Legislative Roller Coaster
- Bill passage (March 2023)
- Signed by Governor
- Effective June 29, 2023

Next steps: regulations!!

Veterinary Medicine Practice Act Modernization Proposal
KBVE-KVMA Stakeholder Meetings

Please RSVP to Vet@ky.gov or call 502-782-0269.

All meetings to begin at 6:30 PM local time.

Date	KVMA Region	KVMA POC	Location
Tuesday, March 29th	South Central	Dr. Mandy Williams	WKU L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center 406 Elrod Road Bowling Green, KY
Wednesday, April 6th	Buffalo Trace	Dr. Lauren Minner	Darrington, KY
Tuesday, April 12th	Greater Louisville		
Thursday, April 14th	Central		
Tuesday, April 19th			
Tuesday, April 25th			
Thursday, April 27th			
Tuesday, May 31st			
Wednesday, June 1st			

Kentucky Legislature 2022 Live Streams

Agricultural Leadership Dialogue on Veterinary Shortages

PRACTICE ACT MODERNIZATION – STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

KDA Commissioner Ryan F. Quarles brought together agriculture and commodity group leadership with leaders from the veterinary community to dialogue about:

- Veterinary Shortage Issues
- Practice Act Modernization
- Possible shortage solutions
- Communication between industry and the government
- Future dialogue sessions planned

Watch the first assembly dialogue on veterinary shortages: <https://www.kentucky.gov/legislative/2022/05/2022-05-20-assembly-dialogue-on-veterinary-shortages/>

Coverage Provided By LRC Staff

"PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE"

[KRS 321.181](#)

(50) "Practice of veterinary medicine" means any person who practices veterinary medicine when performing any one (1) or more of the following on an animal:

- (a) Directly or indirectly diagnoses, prognoses, corrects, changes, relieves, prevents, supervises, recommends, or performs medical or surgical treatment, **including complementary and alternative veterinary medicine therapies**, obstetrics, dentistry, oral surgery, acupuncture, laser therapy, manipulation, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine, for the diagnosis, prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, defect, deformity, fracture, bodily injury, disease, or dental, physical, behavioral, or mental condition;
- (b) Prescribes, dispenses, or administers any drug, medicine, anesthetic, biologic, appliance, apparatus, application, treatment, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique for veterinary purposes, or performs euthanasia, in accordance with the applicable federal statutes and regulations governing controlled prescription drugs, legend drugs, and veterinary drugs;
- (c) Performs any manual procedure for the diagnosis, treatment, or both of pregnancy, sterility, or infertility, including embryo transfer;...



“COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE VETERINARY MEDICINE THERAPIES”

[KRS 321.181](#)

(23) "Complementary and alternative veterinary medicine therapies" means a heterogeneous group of preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic philosophies and practices that are not considered part of conventional veterinary medicine. These therapies include but are not limited to:

- (a) Veterinary acupuncture, acuthery, and acupressure;
- (b) Veterinary homeopathy;
- (c) Veterinary manual or manipulative therapy, such as therapies based on techniques practiced in osteopathy, chiropractic, or physical medicine and therapy;
- (d) Veterinary nutraceutical therapy; and
- (e) Veterinary phytotherapy;



“ALLIED ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL” OR “AAHP” PROVIDER

[KRS 321.181](#)

- (1) "Allied animal health professional" or "AAHP" means a professional who has completed an approved allied animal health professional program as defined by administrative regulation and who offers specialized, limited services as defined by administrative regulation to an animal patient in animal chiropractic*;

*KBVE attempted to include EDPs, but had to remove to pass bill



“ALLIED ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL” OR “AAHP” PROVIDER

[KRS 321.181](#)

- (4) "Allied animal health professional permit" or "AAHP permit" means a credential issued to an allied animal health professional who is permitted by the board to practice on animals in the Commonwealth and to conduct specialized services for an animal patient limited to the scope of work as defined in administrative regulation by the board;
- (6) "Animal chiropractic" means the science of diagnosing and adjusting or manipulating the subluxations of the articulations of an animal's spine and its adjacent tissues and by applying methods of treatment designed to augment those adjustments or manipulations;



AAHP PROVIDERS

[KRS 321.235](#) – Powers and duties of board

- KBVE granted scope of authority to govern AAHPs
- Require application, permit to practice, renewal, CE
- Promulgate administrative regulations
- Collect fees
- Limit scope of practice



AAHP PERMITS



AAHP PERMIT OVERVIEW

Currently, only for **animal chiropractic providers (ACPs)**

- Landed in legislation due to series of meetings between KBVE and Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners (KBCE), 2020 – 2024
- Meetings explored hypothetical regulations and governance of ACPs
- Added seat for AAHP permittee to the Board



AAHP PERMIT OVERVIEW

[201 KAR 16:737](#) – Responsibilities and limitations on practice

- Communication with veterinarians (pre- *and* post- services)
- Limited scope of practice
 - Prohibition on lasers, shockwave, ultrasound, electrotherapy, rehabilitation activities, etc.
 - No medical imaging
 - No surgery
 - No prescription authority
- Medical record keeping, retention, access
- Duty to Report
- Subject to compliance and disciplinary action



NEW LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES



CURRENT AND FUTURE LEGISLATION IN KENTUCKY

- Equine Dental Providers (EDPs)
 - 25 RS BR 426 – pending filing late Feb
 - Texas vs. Oklahoma models
 - Permit changed to license for liability insurance purposes
 - Larger framework
 - Title Protections
 - Advisory Committee



CURRENT AND FUTURE LEGISLATION IN KENTUCKY

- Animal Massage Therapists
 - New approach
 - Surveys
 - Seeking sponsor to add into current AAHP framework
- Physical Therapists
 - Scheduled meetings in 2025
 - Opposition from KBVE and Kentucky Board of Physical Therapy (KBPT)



WHO ELSE WANTS A PIECE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE?

The better question
might be:

“Who doesn’t?”

- Chiropractors
- Physical Therapists
- Rehabilitators
- Therapists / Animal communicators
- Nurses
- Dentists
- Acupuncturists
- Vaccine Administrators
- Euthanasia specialists
- Farmers and herdsmen
- Groomers, breeders, sitters...



WHO SHOULD GOVERN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ON ANIMALS?

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on animals – Veterinarians!

- Keeping various practices on animals under a single board's umbrella
- Consistent limits on scopes of practice
- Less confusing for the consumer/public
- One source for animal services listings





KENTUCKY BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS



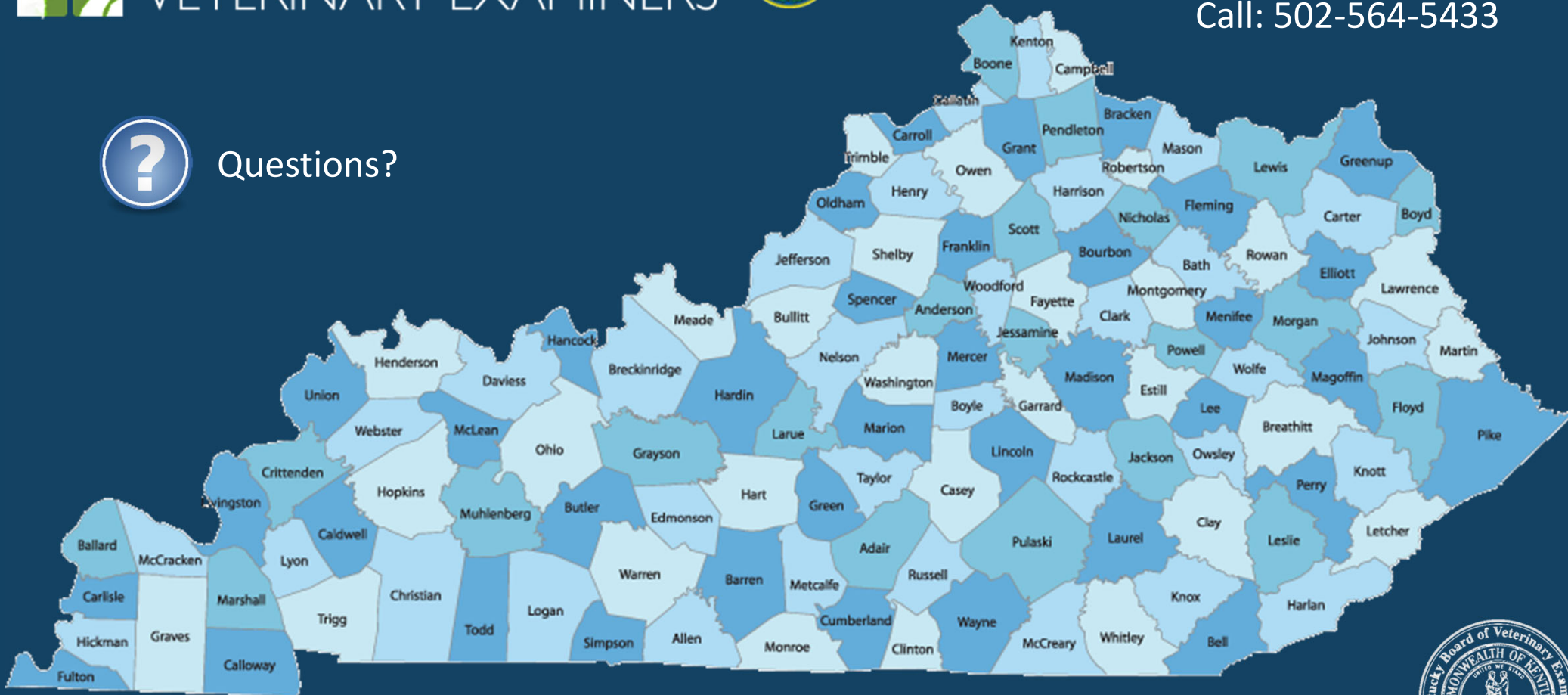
Home Page: kbve.ky.gov

Email: Vet@ky.gov

Call: 502-564-5433



Questions?



Learn more about the Kentucky Practice Act at <https://kbve.ky.gov/Pages/practice-act.aspx>





Animal Chiropractic in Nevada



Statutory Authority (NRS 638.070)

Adopt regulations... 'Concerning alternative veterinary medicine... acupuncture, chiropractic procedures, dentistry, cosmetic surgery, holistic medicine... under the direction of a licensed veterinarian.'



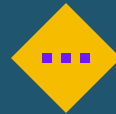
Definition NAC 638.800

"Animal chiropractic" means the examination and treatment of a nonhuman animal through the manipulation and adjustment of specific joints and cranial sutures of the animal.



Licensure of Animal Chiropractors (AC)

- Active as a chiropractor for at least 1 year
- Licensed with NV Chiropractic Board
- Certified with the AVCA or similar organization approved by the Board



Renewal

- Bi-annual
- 30 hours of CE each 2 year period
- License verification with NV Chiropractic Board



Supervision

- Referred by veterinarian (under VCPR)
- AC assumes liability for services
- 48 hours send medical records (MR) to referring veterinarian
- MRs must contain: patient information, exam findings, diagnosis, treatment plan, progress, and outcomes.



Discipline

- Refuse to issue
- Refuse to renew
- Revoke
- Suspend
- Fines up to \$10,000 for each act
- Probation with reasonable conditions
- Public reprimand;
- Competency/mental/physical exam
- Pay fees and costs



Animal Physical Therapy in Nevada



Statutory Authority (NRS 638.070)

Adopt regulations... 'Concerning alternative veterinary medicine... acupuncture, chiropractic procedures, dentistry, cosmetic surgery, holistic medicine... under the direction of a licensed veterinarian.'



Definition NAC 638.750

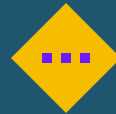
rehabilitation,...not include animal chiropractic:

1. Stretching;
2. Massage therapy;
3. Rehabilitative exercise;
4. Hydrotherapy;
5. Application of heat or cold; and
6. Stimulation by the use of:
 - (a) Low-level lasers;
 - (b) Electrical sources;
 - (c) Magnetic fields; or
 - (d) Noninvasive therapeutic ultrasound.



Licensure of Animal Physical Therapists (APT)

- Active as a PT for at least 1 year
- Licensed with NV PT Board
- 100 hours course work (Animal PT specific).
- 125 hours veterinarian supervised clinical work.



Renewal

- Bi-annual
- 10 hours of CE each 2 year period
- License verification with NV PT Board.



Supervision

- Referred by veterinarian (under VCPR)
- APT assumes liability for services
- 48 hours send medical records (MR) to referring veterinarian
- MRs must contain: results of basic rehabilitation exam, diagnosis and treatment plan, and progress and disposition of the case.



Discipline

- Refuse to issue
- Refuse to renew
- Revoke
- Suspend
- Fines up to \$10,000 for each act
- Probation with reasonable conditions
- Public reprimand;
- Competency/mental/physical exam
- Pay fees and costs



Equine Dental Providers (EDP)



Statutory Authority (NRS 638.070)

Adopt regulations... 'Concerning alternative veterinary medicine... acupuncture, chiropractic procedures, dentistry, cosmetic surgery, holistic medicine... under the direction of a licensed veterinarian.'



Definition NAC 638.740

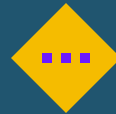
Examination and treatment of the mouth and teeth of... equine using the following techniques:
 (a) The removal of enamel points from teeth;
 (b) The maintenance of normal molar table angles and freeing up lateral excursion and other normal movements of the mandible; and
 (c) The removal of points from the buccal aspect of the upper arcade and the lingual aspect of the lower arcade.

Does not include extraction of teeth... oral surgery.



Licensure of EDP

- Certificate from a professional equine dentistry org. approved by the Board.
- Statement from a licensed veterinarian experience in large animal medicine that the applicant will be under their direct supervision.



Renewal

- Bi-annual
- 16 hours of CE each 2 year period
- Proof of current certification status with the professional equine dentistry organization.



Supervision

- Direct supervision by veterinarian (under VCPR)
- EDP assumes liability for services
- 48 hours send medical records (MR) to referring veterinarian
- MRs must contain: the dental chart of the animal and the progress and disposition of the case



Discipline

- Refuse to issue
- Refuse to renew
- Revoke
- Suspend
- Fines up to \$10,000 for each act
- Probation with reasonable conditions
- Public reprimand;
- Competency/mental/physical exam
- Pay fees and costs