



MEMORANDUM

DATE	July 1, 2026
TO	California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Justin Sotelo, Policy Specialist
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 7. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on 2025-2026 Legislation Impacting the Board, DCA, and/or the Veterinary Profession

Legislation is amended, statuses are updated, and analyses are added frequently; thus, hyperlinks, identified in [blue, underlined text](#), are provided throughout this document to ensure Board members and the public have access to the most up-to-date information. The information below was based on legislation, statuses, and analyses (if any) publicly available on **July 1, 2026**.

A. Priority Legislation for Board Consideration

- 1. Assembly Bill (AB) [1733](#) (Lee, Chapter 42, Statutes of 2026) License and Registration Renewal: Continuing Education
Board Position: **Support****

Status: [Approved by Governor / Filed with Secretary of State – June 30, 2026](#)

Analysis: 6/16/26 – Senate Floor
5/29/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee
4/27/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee
4/10/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Hearing Date: N/A

Summary: Currently, veterinarians are required to complete 36 hours of continuing education (CE) credit for license renewal, and Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs) are required to complete 20 hours of CE for registration renewal.

As part of the 36 hours, a veterinarian may earn up to six hours combined by taking up to six hours of self-study courses or providing up to four hours of pro bono spay and neuter services, as specified. (Business and Professions Code (BPC), § [4858.1](#), subd. (b)(2).)

Similarly, RVTs may earn up to four hours combined by taking up to four hours of self-study courses or providing up to two hours of animal health care tasks related to spay and neuter services, as specified. (BPC, § [4858.2](#), subd. (b)(2).)

This bill reorganizes the veterinarian and RVT CE statutes to eliminate the combined six-hour cap for self-study courses and pro bono spay and neuter services. Instead, the bill allows a veterinarian to complete up to six hours of self-study courses and up to four hours of spay and neuter services (up to a total of 10 CE hours of the 36 hours required for license renewal).

The bill also allows an RVT to complete up to four hours of self-study courses and up to two hours of spay and neuter services (up to a total of six CE hours of the 20 hours required for registration renewal).

In addition, the bill strikes “pro bono” and adds “at no cost to” the listed shelters where spay and neuter services may be performed to qualify for CE credit. These amendments allow the licensee/registrant to claim CE credit while performing spay and neuter services for which the licensee/ registrant could be paid, instead of authorizing spay/neuter CE credit for performing these services for free.

According to the bill sponsor (California Animal Welfare Association [CalAnimals]), this is intended to make it clear the organization receiving the benefit is not charged for the veterinarian’s or RVT’s spay/neuter services. The sponsors are not concerned with veterinarians or RVTs being paid by a third party.

With that said, the sponsor believes reorganizing the CE hours to strike the six-hour CE hour cap language and revising the spay and neuter service CE credit from pro bono services to possibly paid services provides more incentive for veterinarians and RVTs to provide the services, as long as the shelter or rescue group were provided the services at no cost.

Staff Comments: Previous staff comments regarding AB 1733 can be viewed [here](#).

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to support AB 1733, as written.

On June 18, 2026, Board staff again reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/ Budget Office that the bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Board and that any associated workload would be minor and absorbable.

2. AB 1999 (Kalra, 2026) Veterinary Medicine
Board Position: Support

Status: Senate Floor

Analysis: 6/26/26 – Senate Appropriations Committee

6/12/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic
Development Committee

5/1/26 – Assembly Floor

4/27/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

4/10/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Hearing Date: N/A

Summary: This bill would change California’s veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) provisions from applying to “condition-specific” to “patient-specific.” California law currently requires a veterinarian to examine an animal for each condition treated in order to establish a valid VCPR. In other states, a VCPR may be established through an examination of the patient within a defined timeframe, after which veterinarians may use professional judgment to determine whether an additional examination is needed for treatment. California’s condition-specific model differs from that approach. Some California veterinarians may not be fully aware of the condition-specific requirement, which may create compliance challenges under current law.

Additionally, this bill would create a “retired volunteer” license category at the Board for veterinarians and RVTs who volunteer at shelters, humane societies, or nonprofit animal organizations. This license category would include a reduced licensure fee and fewer administrative requirements.

This bill also would create a “shelter veterinarian” license category to streamline licensure for veterinarians whose employment is limited to animal control shelters or humane societies.

AB 1999 also would improve California’s veterinary telemedicine law by incorporating definitions for terms such as “telemedicine,” “teleconsultation,” and “teletriage,” and by updating existing statutory language to clarify how telemedicine may be practiced in the state. Following the passage of AB [1399](#) (Friedman, Chapter 475, Statutes of 2023), some existing regulatory provisions were superseded. The amendments proposed in AB 1999 would address these changes.

Lastly, the bill would narrow California’s “owner-exemption” law, which permits animal owners to perform veterinary procedures on their own animals. The current law does not specify species and therefore applies broadly. This can allow non-veterinarians to perform surgical or dental procedures on companion animals. AB 1999 would prohibit owners from

performing surgical or dental procedures on their own dogs and cats while maintaining the exemption for other contexts, including agriculture.

Staff Comments: This bill is co-sponsored by the Board, the California Veterinary Medical Association, San Diego Humane Society, and Social Compassion in Legislation.

On April 2, 2026, Board staff reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/Budget Office that this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Board and that any associated workload would be minor and absorbable.

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to support AB 1999, as written at the time.

On June 8, 2026, the bill was amended to maintain the exemption from the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act for an organization accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums or a university, college, or governmental research agency practicing veterinary medicine on an animal owned by that entity.

On June 17, 2026, the bill was amended to add subdivision (f) to BPC section 4826.6, which reads as follows: “(f) Only a person who holds a current license to practice veterinary medicine in this state is authorized to practice veterinary medicine via telemedicine on an animal patient located in this state.”

In response to amendments to the bill, on June 12 and 18, 2026, Board staff again reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/ Budget Office that the bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Board and that any associated workload would be minor and absorbable.

**3. AB [2010](#) (Soria, 2026) Veterinary Medicine: Veterinary Surgery
Premises: Spay and Neuter Services
Board Position: **Oppose, Unless Amended****

Status: Senate Floor

Analysis: 6/12/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic
Development Committee

5/15/26 – Assembly Floor

5/12/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

4/17/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Hearing Date: N/A

Summary: This bill would clarify that high-quality, high-volume spay or neuter (HQHVSN) services performed either within a registered veterinary premises or by a veterinarian working for that premises in a temporary setting are

exempt from certain minimum facility standards normally required by the Board. Specifically, these HQHVSN procedures would not be required to:

1. take place in a separate room reserved for aseptic surgical procedures that require aseptic preparation;
2. avoid open shelving in the area in which the aseptic surgical sterilization procedure is performed; or
3. have access to equipment for viewing radiographs.

Additionally, the bill defines HQHVSN services as the aseptic surgical sterilization of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits (in any combination) within a 12-hour period, including the veterinarian's supervision of presurgical preparation and recovery.

Staff Comments: The topic of HQHVSN and Mobile Animal Sterilization Hospital (MASH) clinics was discussed by the Board and Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) last year in response to a [letter](#) received from Animal Balance and the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in July 2025 and a [presentation](#) regarding MASH clinics provided by representatives from Animal Balance and the San Diego Animal Human Society during the October 14, 2025 MDC meeting. Additionally, the MDC further [discussed](#) MASH clinics and minimum standards for alternate veterinary premises at the October 2025 meeting. An [overview](#) of the topic was also provided to the Board on October 15, 2025.

On March 10 and March 30, 2026, Board staff reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/Budget Office that the impacts of this bill would be minor and absorbable, resulting in the following: one-time revisions to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24 sections; updates to inspection procedures/materials/training; outreach to licensees; and, minimal ongoing impact.

The Board's Executive Committee and Executive Officer (EO) met with the Authors and cosponsors regarding concerns with the March 19, 2026 version of the bill. Specifically, the bill was requiring, at the time, that HQHVSN services be performed *in* a veterinary premises. However, it was the understanding from Animal Balance that they would like to provide the services *from* a veterinary premises in large spaces, such as gymnasiums.

Unlike earlier versions of the bill, the proposal no longer requires temporary HQHVSN locations (such as gymnasiums, classrooms, or community spaces) to register as fixed veterinary premises. As a result, temporary locations would not be subject to the broader structural requirements of CCR, title 16, section 2030 or the California Building Standards Code (CCR, tit. 24, § 1251). This change addresses earlier operational concerns about the feasibility of meeting full premises standards for short-duration HQHVSN events.

The bill also defines HQHVSN services as the aseptic sterilization of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits - alone or in combination - performed within 12 consecutive hours under veterinary supervision. This definition ties the exemptions directly to high-volume sterilization events and clarifies the scope of services covered by the bill.

Given this narrowed focus and exemption-based structure, the anticipated administrative impact remains limited to updates to procedures, training, and communication with licensees, as previously reported.

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to oppose the March 19, 2026 version of AB 2010, unless amended. The position letter with requested amendments is attached for reference (Attachment 1).

On April 22, 2026, the bill was amended to clarify that HQHVSN services may be performed either in a registered veterinary premises or by a veterinarian employed or contracted by such a premises in a temporary setting, and remove the requirement that these services take place in a facility meeting specified standards, such as having radiograph-viewing equipment.

On April 27, 2026, Board staff again reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/ Budget Office that the impacts of the bill would be minor and absorbable.

Since the last Board meeting, the Board's EO met with the Author's office and co-sponsors multiple times to discuss the Board's requested amendments. In June, the Author's office provided proposed amendments that would satisfy most of the Board's concerns. However, the proposal still included specifying exemptions for viewing radiographs and open shelving.

The Board's EO again explained the implementation concern with leaving the two exemptions, since the exemptions in the bill would apply to all premises, not just the temporary pop-up settings. As written in the proposal, if an inspector went into a surgery suite in a fixed veterinary premises and saw that there was open shelving and no equipment for viewing radiographs, the licensee manager could claim they only do HQHVSN services in that suite and therefore do not need to comply with those requirements. Proving otherwise would become challenging.

After discussing the amendments that the Author agreed to make thus far, the Executive Committee decided that if the last implementation concern was addressed by the Author and all other amendments are made, they would move the Board to a Support position (for ratification by the Board in July).

The Board's EO met again with the Author's office to discuss ways to address the co-sponsors' concerns and make the remaining amendment. As of the date of this memo, the amendments have not been published.

An additional update will be provided to the Board during the July meeting.

4. AB [2774](#) (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) Physical Therapy Board of California

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Analysis: 6/26/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee

5/20/26 – Assembly Floor

5/12/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

4/20/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Hearing Date: Not yet set

Summary: This bill would amend the Physical Therapy Practice Act by extending the authority of the Physical Therapy Board of California - and its ability to appoint an executive officer - from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2031, while making only minor, nonsubstantive adjustments to existing license fee provisions. The bill also would tighten restrictions on the board's ability to consider reinstatement or penalty-modification petitions from individuals whose licenses were revoked, suspended, or placed on probation. Specifically, it bars petitions from applicants required to register as sex offenders - except when the registration stems solely from a misdemeanor - as well as from those convicted of certain sexual misconduct offenses.

Staff Comments: In the evening of June 26, 2026, the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee (Committee) [bill analysis](#) was published and included a note indicating that the Author may wish to consider amending the bill to include the following framework regarding animal physical therapy:

- 1) Define the practice.
- 2) Require the relevant human healthcare license and standardized education, training, and continuing education in the animal-adapted practice.
- 3) Require veterinarian-determined supervision. If no determination is made, default to direct supervision.
- 4) Consideration of animal-specific differences.
- 5) Delineate the disciplinary roles of the CVMB and the relevant board of the adapted practice. Specifically, the CVMB maintains primary jurisdiction over veterinary practices and the original board maintains secondary and crosscutting jurisdiction.
- 6) Require the animal-adapted practitioner to register with the CVMB.

- 7) Require the supervising veterinarian to examine the animal and establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.
- 8) Require standard consumer disclosures.
- 9) Establish premises, safety protocol, and inspection requirements.
- 10) Clarify that the liability for services lies with the treating provider.
- 11) Protect titles as necessary.
- 12) Authorize fees.

This bill was heard by the Committee on June 29, 2026. The Board's EO testified that the Board did not have a position on the bill since it was unaware until Friday's analysis there was a recommendation to consider amending the bill to include animal physical therapy.

The EO shared that this is a highly controversial issue that has been discussed over the last two decades. To add such a significant amendment and amending two practice acts after the policy committees have heard the bill flies in the face of this entire legislative process. The EO urged the Committee to not agree to add something this significant this late in the session and instead wait until next session.

The Chair of the Committee clarified that, as of right now, there are no amendments in the bill related to animal physical therapy. There are ongoing discussions on the issue so the Committee may see a bill on the issue in the next year or two. Board staff note that, on June 30, 2026, the bill history states the bill passed out of the Committee as amended; at this time, it is unknown if those amendments included animal physical therapy provisions.

5. [AB 2775](#) (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) Chiropractic Act

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

Analysis: 6/28/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee

5/20/26 – Assembly Floor

5/12/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

4/20/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Hearing Date: Not yet set

Summary: This bill would extend the sunset review date for the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (SBCE) to 2031, modernize licensee directory requirements by mandating electronic distribution (with optional mailed copies upon request), and update various board fee structures while allowing new fees to support regulatory functions. The bill would authorize the board to create a temporary licensure system, establish a chiropractic facility permit program, and impose penalty fees for certain delinquent renewals. It also would authorize automatic license revocation or suspension for specified criminal convictions, expand licensure-denial exceptions related to sexual

misconduct, and includes intent language to explore issues involving chiropractors providing care to animals, along with other technical changes.

Staff Comments: The Committee [bill analysis](#) was published on Sunday evening, June 28, 2026, and included a discussion about a potential regulatory framework to allow chiropractors to practice on animals without direct veterinarian supervision. The discussion concluded with a Committee staff recommendation that “the bill should be amended on a future date to incorporate a framework to recognize licensed DCs [Doctor of Chiropractic] who wish to further practice animal chiropractic.”

During the June 29, 2026 Committee hearing, the Board’s EO testified that the Board would oppose AB 2775 if the proposed language related to animal chiropractic care was amended into the bill. The [proposed language](#) provided to the Board and discussed at its June 15, 2026 meeting, had significant implementation concerns that need to be thoughtfully worked through. The Board’s EO shared that the Board did not believe there was enough time to address all the concerns this session.

The Board’s EO urged the Committee to not include any amendments related to animal chiropractic care in AB 2775 and, instead, work with the Board, SBCE, stakeholders, and the public in a separate vehicle next session to ensure this is done thoughtfully and correctly for consumers.

The Chair of the Committee stated that the amendments are not part of the bill and that some senator colleagues have brought the issue forward and, out of courtesy, included it in the analysis. Board staff note that, on June 30, 2026, the bill history states the bill passed out of the Committee as amended; at this time, it is unknown if those amendments included animal chiropractic provisions.

6. Senate Bill (SB) [1269](#) (Ochoa Bogh, 2026) Chiropractors: Animal Chiropractic Practitioners
Board Position: [Oppose](#)

[Status:](#) Dead, due to legislative deadlines

[Analysis:](#) None

Hearing Date: N/A

Summary: This bill would have created a legal framework allowing licensed chiropractors to practice animal chiropractic in California by requiring them to obtain registration as animal chiropractic practitioners from SBCE. It would have prohibited chiropractors from performing animal chiropractic unless registered or working under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

The bill would have established registration requirements, including certification from specified animal-chiropractic credentialing organizations, and would have required animal chiropractic premises to register with SBCE. It further would have authorized SBCE to set fees by regulation, adopt rules to implement the program, and consult with the Board when creating regulations involving standards of animal care.

Finally, the bill would have made registered animal chiropractic practitioners exempt from the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, insulating them from its licensure requirements when practicing within the scope defined by the bill.

Staff Comments: This bill was similar to SB [687](#) (Ochoa Bogh, 2025), which the Board voted to oppose at its April 2025 meeting. [Concerns](#) regarding SB 687 were again shared with the Board at its January 2026 meeting. SB 687 died due to legislative deadlines, and the proposal was re-introduced in SB 1269.

On March 9, 2026, Board staff reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/Budget Office that the impacts of SB 1269 would have been minor and absorbable. While the Board would have consulted with SBCE on their regulations, the bill would have mainly impacted SBCE for the reasons stated above.

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to oppose SB 1269, as written.

SB 1269 also died due to legislative deadlines.

On June 2, 2026, Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee staff informed the Board's EO that it was their goal to include amendments in AB [2775](#) "to authorize licensed chiropractors who are not veterinarians to provide services to animal clients, beyond the pathways that exist today." The Board's EO also was informed at that time that the bill was expected to be heard on June 29, 2026.

Given the timeframe, an off-calendar teleconference meeting was scheduled on June 15, 2026 for the Board to discuss and consider the proposed amendments to AB 2775. At the meeting, the Board voted to oppose AB 2775, if the proposed amendments were included in the bill. Additionally, SBCE's EO provided public comment on behalf of SBCE that they were open to working directly and collaboratively with the Board and Committee staff on a future bill that would address this topic.

7. SB [1311](#) (Wahab, 2026) Licensed Professions
Board Position: Support

[Status:](#) Assembly Appropriations Committee

[Analysis:](#) 6/26/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

4/14/26 – Senate Floor
3/20/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic
Development Committee

Hearing Date: Not yet set

Summary: On March 26, 2026, this bill was amended to include the following proposed changes to the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act: requiring that the Governor also appoint the additional RVT member (total of two RVTs) to the Board; modifying the educational requirements to become an RVT to include education provided by a California public school; and, making other nonsubstantive changes.

This bill is identified as an urgency bill, meaning it would take effect immediately upon signature by the Governor.

Staff Comments: This bill includes specific urgent amendments addressing immediate issues impacting the Board’s composition and legitimate RVT educational programs.

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to support SB 1311, as written.

8. **SB [1445](#) (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, 2026) Healing Arts
Board Position: **Support, If Amended****

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Analysis: 6/26/26 – Assembly Business and Professions Committee

5/5/26 – Senate Floor

4/17/26 – Senate Business, Professions and Economic
Development

Hearing Date: Not yet set

Summary: SB 1445 is an omnibus healing arts bill that makes a series of technical, conforming, and minor statutory updates across multiple boards and programs within DCA.

Staff Comments: The Board’s 2025 Sunset Report requested amendments to BPC section 4887 be included in its Sunset Bill, AB 1502 (Chapter 195, Statutes of 2025). Unfortunately, those amendments were unintentionally not included in AB [1502](#). As such, staff recommended that the Board take a Support, If Amended position on SB 1445 and asked that it consider [amendments](#) provided in the April 15, 2026 Board meeting materials. Staff also recommended that the Board consider [additional amendments](#) provided in the April Board meeting memo.

At its April 15, 2026 meeting, the Board voted to support SB 1445, if amended.

On June 17, 2026, the additional amendments were added to SB 1445; however, the Board's requested amendments to BPC section 4887 were not included. Staff has asked the Committee staff for clarification as to why the BPC section 4887 amendments were not included and if they may still be included this session.

B. Other Board-Monitored Legislation

1. AB [1558](#) (Arambula, 2026) Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee; Held Under Submission – May 14, 2026

Analysis: 5/5/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee
4/18/26 – Assembly Health Committee

Hearing Date: N/A

Summary: This bill would enact the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act, expanding how volunteer health professionals - including those providing veterinary services - may be registered and authorized to practice in California during a declared emergency. It allows additional entities to operate approved volunteer registration systems and requires those systems to verify a volunteer's out-of-state licensure and good standing before they provide services.

The bill sets scope-of-practice rules for volunteers and gives the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), licensing boards, and host entities authority to limit or regulate volunteer activities during an emergency. It also exempts registered volunteers from unauthorized-practice laws unless they knowingly act outside permitted limits, authorizes California licensing boards to impose discipline for misconduct during emergency deployments, and deems volunteers state agents for purposes of workers' compensation.

EMSA would adopt regulations, with approval from the Commission on Emergency Medical Services, to implement the act.

Staff Comments: On March 17, 2026, Board staff reported to the DCA Fiscal Operations/Budget Office that the impacts of this bill would be minor and absorbable. It was further stated that this bill would not create any new or ongoing programs or mandates for the Board; but that it may generate infrequent enforcement or verification activities during emergency declarations, absorbable within existing staff resources.

As of May 14, 2026, the bill was held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Attachment:

1. AB 2010 Position Letter



April 29, 2026

The Honorable Esmeralda Z. Soria
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 4110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill (AB) 2010 (Soria, 2026) Veterinary Medicine: Veterinary Surgery
Premises: Spay and Neuter Services

Position: OPPOSE, Unless Amended

Dear Assembly Member Soria:

The California Veterinary Medical Board (Board) regulates the largest population of veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians in the nation. The Board's mission is to protect consumers and animals by regulating licensees, promoting professional standards, and diligently enforcing the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Practice Act).

The Board took an Oppose Unless Amended position on AB 2010 during its recent Board meeting. AB 2010 states that high-quality, high-volume spay or neuter services (HQHVSN) performed in a registered veterinary premises shall not be required to comply with specified standards. Specifically, HQHVSN services performed within a registered veterinary premises would be exempt from the following: 1) a requirement for a separate room that is reserved for aseptic surgical procedures that require aseptic preparation; 2) a prohibition on open shelving in the area in which the aseptic surgical sterilization procedure is performed; and, 3) a requirement for equipment for viewing radiographs.

The Board supports and encourages HQHVSN services throughout California. During its meeting, the Board agreed that such services can be performed within a separate designated area rather than a separate surgical room. However, the Board requests specific amendments, included herewith, for clarity and implementation.

First, as written, the bill would exempt HQHVSN *services* from complying with *veterinary premises* standards. The Board requests the bill be amended to address the premises standards issue it appears the sponsors intended to resolve.

Second, concerns were raised that "high quality" is not defined and can lead to a perception these services are of a higher quality than standard spay and neuter

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services. After significant discussion, the Board agreed “quality” was acceptable, but requests clarity as to what “quality” means. During the discussion with HQHVSN experts, it was determined the services can be referred to as high quality because they follow the Association of Shelter Veterinarians’ (ASV) 2016 Veterinary Medical Care Guidelines for Spay-Neuter Programs. As such, the Board requests the bill be amended to specify the services meet the current ASV standards.

Third, there was significant discussion on whether the services can be considered “aseptic” if they are not performed within a surgical room. Ultimately, the Board requests amendments to not specify “aseptic” and to instead state the services are not required to be performed in a separate surgical room. The attached requested amendments would make these changes and otherwise remove unnecessary language since the services are not being performed in a separate surgical room.

Without these amendments, AB 2010 will be challenging to implement and enforce.

If you would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact the Board’s Executive Officer via email at Jessica.Sieferman@dca.ca.gov or phone at (916) 318-6241

Sincerely,



Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President
California Veterinary Medical Board



Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice-President
California Veterinary Medical Board

Attachment



REQUESTED AMENDMENTS TO ASSEMBLY BILL 2010 (Soria, 2026) AS AMENDED April 22, 2026

Proposed revisions shown in *blue italic text* and requested deletions shown in ~~red strikethrough text~~.

Amend Section 4854 of the Business and Professions Code to read:

4854. (a) All premises where veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, or veterinary surgery is being practiced, and all instruments, apparatus and apparel used in connection with those practices, shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times, and shall conform to those minimum standards established by the board.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, high-quality, high-volume spay or neuter services ~~performed either in a registered veterinary premises, or by a veterinarian employed with a veterinary premises in a temporary setting~~ shall not be required ~~to take place in a facility that with any of the following standards:~~

~~(1) A requirement for *to be performed in a separate surgical room*. ~~that is reserved for aseptic surgical procedures that require aseptic preparation.~~~~

~~(2) A prohibition on open shelving in the area in which the aseptic surgical sterilization procedure is performed.~~

~~(3) A requirement for equipment for viewing radiographs.~~

(c) For purposes of this section, “high-quality, high-volume spay or neuter services” means the aseptic surgical sterilization *performed in accordance with the current Association of Shelter Veterinarians’ Veterinary Medical Care Guidelines for Spay-Neuter Programs* by a veterinarian, ~~including the supervision by the veterinarian of presurgical preparation and recovery of the animals,~~ of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.