

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 2140

By: Woods

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to veterinary medicine; defining terms; authorizing the use of telemedicine in veterinarian care; establishing requirements for utilization of telemedicine; requiring State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to promulgate rules; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 698.30f of Title 59, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act:

1. "Animal" means any animal other than humans and includes, but is not limited to, fowl, fish, birds, and reptiles, wild or domestic, living or dead;

2. "Telemedicine" means the practice of veterinary medicine using electronic communications, information technology, or other means of interaction between a licensed veterinarian and an animal

1 owner or caretaker when the veterinarian and the animal are not in  
2 the same physical location; and

3 3. "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" (VCPR) means the  
4 relationship defined in Section 698.2 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma  
5 Statutes and veterinary board rules, which may be established  
6 through telemedicine under the conditions set forth in this act.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 698.30g of Title 59, unless  
9 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. Telemedicine may be used by licensed veterinarians to  
11 evaluate, diagnose, and provide personalized treatment  
12 recommendations for animals when an in-person examination is not  
13 immediately feasible, provided that the:

14 1. Condition of the animal requires timely veterinary attention  
15 to prevent death, serious harm, or unnecessary suffering;

16 2. Use of telemedicine is limited to cases where visual or  
17 verbal communication with the owner or caretaker provides sufficient  
18 information for the veterinarian to make a professional judgment;

19 3. Veterinarian obtains sufficient information to make an  
20 informed clinical decision through live videos, photographs,  
21 electronic records, or other approved telecommunication methods; and

22 4. Telemedicine encounter is documented in the patient's  
23 medical record in the same manner as an in-person consultation.  
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1 B. Telemedicine shall not be used as a substitute for annual  
2 exams, vaccinations, or other procedures requiring physical  
3 presence, unless approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medical  
4 Examiners.

5 C. The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners shall  
6 promulgate rules and regulations establishing:

7 1. Standards for the appropriate use of telemedicine in animal  
8 care;

9 2. Requirements for recordkeeping and confidentiality of  
10 telemedicine encounters;

11 3. Training for certification standards for veterinarians  
12 utilizing telemedicine; and

13 4. Limitations on prescribing medications through telemedicine  
14 without a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) or an in-  
15 person examination, except in emergency cases where immediate  
16 treatment is necessary in order to preserve animal health and  
17 welfare.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.  
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