

Senate Engrossed

veterinarian visits; electronic means; prescriptions

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SENATE BILL 1286

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 32-2240.03, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO
VETERINARIANS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-2240.03, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 32-2240.03. Veterinarian client patient relationship through
5 electronic means; consent; prescriptions; scope
6 of practice

7 A. Notwithstanding any other law and except for an animal that is
8 used in commercial food production that is regulated under title 3, a
9 veterinarian may establish a veterinarian client patient relationship
10 through electronic means if all of the following apply:

11 1. The veterinarian is licensed pursuant to this chapter or holds a
12 permit pursuant to section 32-2217.01.

13 2. The veterinarian obtains informed consent from the client,
14 including an acknowledgement that the standards of care prescribed by this
15 chapter apply to in-person visits and visits through electronic means. The
16 veterinarian shall maintain for at least three years documentation of the
17 consent described in this paragraph.

18 3. The veterinarian provides the client with the veterinarian's
19 name and contact information and secures an alternate means of contacting
20 the client if the electronic means is interrupted. The electronic or
21 written record provided to the client after the ~~telemedicine~~ visit **THROUGH**
22 **ELECTRONIC MEANS** must include the veterinarian's license number.

23 4. Before conducting an evaluation of the patient through
24 electronic means, the veterinarian advises the client of all of the
25 following:

26 (a) The veterinarian may ultimately recommend an in-person visit.

27 (b) The veterinarian is prohibited by federal law from prescribing
28 some drugs or medications based only on an electronic examination.

29 (c) The appointment through electronic means may be terminated at
30 any time.

31 5. The veterinarian is able to recommend the client to a local
32 veterinarian who can see the animal in person. The client has the option
33 to choose an in-person visit.

34 B. A veterinarian may prescribe drugs or medications after
35 establishing a ~~veterinary~~ **VETERINARIAN** client patient relationship through
36 electronic means, except that:

37 1. Prescriptions based only on an electronic examination **FOR**
38 **NON-ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS AND NON-FLEA AND TICK DRUGS** may be initially
39 issued for up to ~~fourteen~~ **THIRTY** days and may be renewed one time for up
40 to ~~fourteen~~ **THIRTY** days with an additional electronic examination.

41 2. **PRESCRIPTIONS BASED ONLY ON AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION FOR**
42 **ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS MAY BE ISSUED ONLY FOR ONE PERIOD OF UP TO FOURTEEN**
43 **DAYS OF TREATMENT. THE VETERINARIAN MAY NOT ISSUE ANY FURTHER**
44 **ANTIMICROBIAL DRUG PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE SAME ANIMAL PATIENT FOR THE SAME**

1 ONGOING TREATMENT OF THE SAME CONDITION UNLESS A VETERINARIAN PERFORMS AN
2 IN-PERSON EXAMINATION OF THE ANIMAL PATIENT.

3 3. PRESCRIPTIONS BASED ONLY ON AN ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION FOR FLEA
4 AND TICK DRUGS MAY BE INITIALLY ISSUED FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS AND MAY BE
5 RENEWED ONE TIME FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO THREE MONTHS.

6 ~~2.~~ 4. Prescriptions based only on electronic examinations and that
7 have been renewed once may not be renewed again without an in-person
8 examination.

9 ~~3.~~ 5. The veterinarian must notify the client that some
10 prescription drugs or medications may be available at a pharmacy and, if
11 requested, the veterinarian will submit a prescription to a pharmacy that
12 the client chooses.

13 ~~4.~~ 6. The veterinarian may not order, prescribe or make available
14 a controlled substance as defined in section 36-2501 unless the
15 veterinarian has performed an in-person physical examination of the
16 patient or made medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises
17 where the patient is kept.

18 ~~5.~~ 7. The veterinarian shall prescribe all drugs and medications
19 in accordance with all federal and state laws.

20 C. Veterinarian services provided through electronic means are
21 subject to the rules adopted pursuant to section 32-2275 relating to the
22 practice of veterinary medicine.