

Introduced by

Agriculture Committee

(At the request of the State Board of Pharmacy)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new subsection to section 43-15-02, a new subsection
2 to section 43-15-10, and chapter 43-15.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the
3 practice of pharmacy and dispensing veterinary prescription drugs; and to provide a penalty.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new subsection to section 43-15-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 A veterinary dispensing technician operating within a veterinary retail facility.

8 **SECTION 2.** A new subsection to section 43-15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 created and enacted as follows:

10 To adopt, amend, and repeal rules as may be deemed necessary by the board to
11 register veterinary dispensing technicians pursuant to qualifications established by the
12 board, to charge a veterinary dispensing technician an annual registration fee not to
13 exceed fifty dollars, to provide for suspension or revocation of a veterinary dispensing
14 technician's registration, and to regulate and control veterinary dispensing technicians.

15 **SECTION 3.** Chapter 43-15.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
16 follows:

17 **43-15.4-01. Definitions.**

18 As used in this chapter:

- 19 1. "Board" means the state board of pharmacy.
20 2. "Compound" means the preparation, mixing, assembling, packaging, or labeling of a
21 drug or device.
22 3. "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in
23 schedules I through V as set out in chapter 19-03.

- 1 4. "Dispensing" means the delivery of a veterinary prescription drug pursuant to the
2 lawful order of a licensed veterinarian and the associated recordkeeping that is
3 relevant to that practice.
- 4 5. "Extra-label use" means the use of an approved drug in a manner that is not in
5 accordance with the approved label directions.
- 6 6. "Nontraditional livestock" means any wildlife held in a cage, fence, enclosure, or other
7 manmade means of confinement that limits its movement within definite boundaries or
8 an animal that is physically altered to limit movement and facilitate capture.
- 9 7. "Veterinary prescription drugs" means drugs that are to be used or prescribed only
10 within the context of a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship. Veterinary
11 prescription drugs are those drugs restricted by federal law to use by or on the order of
12 a licensed veterinarian.
- 13 8. "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:
- 14 a. A veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments
15 regarding the health of an animal and the need for medical treatment, and the
16 client, who is the owner or other caretaker, has agreed to follow the instructions
17 of the veterinarian.
- 18 b. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a
19 general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal.
- 20 c. The practicing veterinarian is readily available for followup in the case of adverse
21 reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. This relationship exists only when
22 the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping
23 and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal and by medically
24 appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.
- 25 9. "Veterinary dispensing technician" means a nonpharmacist registered by the board to
26 dispense veterinary prescription drugs in a veterinary retail facility.
- 27 10. "Veterinary retail facility" means an establishment registered by the board employing a
28 registered veterinary dispensing technician authorized to dispense veterinary
29 prescription drugs pursuant to bona fide orders of veterinarians.

30 **43-15.4-02. Exemptions.**

31 The provisions of this chapter do not apply to the following:

- 1 1. A pharmacist participating in the practice of pharmacy.
- 2 2. A licensed veterinarian supplying the veterinarian's own patients with such remedies
- 3 as the veterinarian may desire.

4 **43-15.4-03. Veterinary retail facility - Permit required.**

5 A person, copartnership, association, corporation, or limited liability company may not open,
6 establish, operate, maintain, or do business in the state of North Dakota, a veterinary retail
7 facility without first obtaining a permit to do so from the board. Application for a permit must be
8 made upon a form prescribed and furnished by the board and must be accompanied by a fee
9 set by the board not to exceed three hundred dollars. A like fee must be paid upon each annual
10 renewal thereof. Separate applications must be made and separate permits required for each
11 veterinary retail facility opened, established, operated, or maintained by the same owner and for
12 the change of location, name, or ownership of an existing veterinary retail facility.

13 **43-15.4-04. Minimum standards for veterinary retail facilities.**

14 The following standards apply to veterinary retail facilities:

- 15 1. Veterinary prescription drugs dispensed by a veterinary retail facility pursuant to a
- 16 licensed veterinarian's prescription are for use on food-animals and nontraditional
- 17 livestock only.
- 18 2. Veterinary dispensing technicians may not:
 - 19 a. Dispense controlled substances.
 - 20 b. Compound veterinary prescription drugs for the dispensing of a prescription.
 - 21 c. Repackage veterinary prescription drugs for the dispensing of a prescription,
 - 22 except that a veterinary dispensing technician may break down case lots of
 - 23 veterinary prescription drugs, provided the seals on the individual containers are
 - 24 not broken. Veterinary dispensing technicians may not open a container and
 - 25 count out or measure out any quantity of a veterinary prescription drug.
 - 26 d. Dispense medication for extra-label use.
- 27 3. Veterinary prescription drugs returned to a veterinary retail facility from a client must
- 28 be treated as damaged or outdated drugs. Returned drugs may not be returned to
- 29 stock or dispensed, distributed, or resold.
- 30 4. A veterinary dispensing technician may dispense veterinary prescription drugs for use
- 31 on food-animals and nontraditional livestock on the basis of a written, electronically

1 transmitted, or oral order received from a licensed veterinarian or the authorized agent
2 of a licensed veterinarian. Only a veterinary dispensing technician may receive an
3 orally transmitted new or refill prescription.

4 5. A veterinary dispensing technician may refill a prescription only if the initial prescription
5 is issued indicating that a specific number of refills are authorized. A prescription may
6 not be refilled twelve or more months after the issuance date of the initial order.

7 6. A veterinary dispensing technician must file, or cause to be filed, any prescription, or a
8 copy thereof, which has been dispensed in the veterinary retail facility. The
9 prescription or a copy of the prescription must be preserved for at least three years
10 after it has been filled. The veterinary dispensing technician must furnish a copy of any
11 prescription to the party presenting it on the request of such party only.

12 7. All veterinary prescription drugs must be properly labeled when dispensed. A complete
13 label must include the following information:

- 14 a. Name, address, and telephone number of veterinarian.
- 15 b. Name of client.
- 16 c. Identification of animals or herds treated.
- 17 d. Date of treatment, prescribing, or dispensing of drug.
- 18 e. Name and quantity of the drug to be prescribed or dispensed.
- 19 f. Dosage and duration directions for use.
- 20 g. Cautionary statements, as needed.
- 21 h. Expiration date.

22 If that information is included in a manufacturer's label, it is unnecessary to repeat it on
23 the prescription label. If there is inadequate space on the label for complete
24 instructions, the veterinary dispensing technician shall provide additional information to
25 accompany the drug dispensed or prescribed.

26 8. Veterinary prescription drugs must be stored separately from over-the-counter drugs.
27 Drugs must be stored under conditions recommended by the manufacturer.

28 **43-15.4-05. Veterinary dispensing technicians - Educational requirements.**

29 To be eligible to be registered by the board as a veterinary dispensing technician, an
30 individual must meet one of the following requirements:

- 1 1. Successful completion of an academic program approved by the state board of
2 pharmacy;
- 3 2. Be engaged in on-the-job training program directed by a pharmacist, a veterinarian, or
4 a licensed veterinary technician and approved by the state board of pharmacy;
- 5 3. Be licensed as a veterinary technician by the state board of veterinary medical
6 examiners;
- 7 4. Hold a license as a North Dakota pharmacy intern; or
- 8 5. Be a student in an accredited college of veterinary medicine.

9 **43-15.4-06. Veterinary dispensing technicians - Registration requirements.**

- 10 1. A veterinary dispensing technician must register with the state board of pharmacy on
11 an annual basis.
- 12 2. A veterinary dispensing technician must be assigned a registration number.
- 13 3. The state board of pharmacy shall provide the veterinary dispensing technician with an
14 annual registration card and pocket identification card.
- 15 4. The veterinary dispensing technician certificate and annual registration card must be
16 displayed and visible to the public in the veterinary retail facility where the veterinary
17 dispensing technician is employed.
- 18 5. The veterinary dispensing technician must wear a name badge while in the veterinary
19 retail facility which clearly identifies the person as a "veterinary dispensing technician."
- 20 6. Every registered veterinary dispensing technician, within fifteen days after changing
21 address or place of employment, shall notify the board of the change. The board shall
22 make the necessary changes in the board's records.
- 23 7. A veterinary dispensing technician holding a certificate of registration as a veterinary
24 dispensing technician in this state may go on inactive status and continue to hold a
25 certificate of registration in this state provided the technician on inactive status may
26 not practice within this state. A veterinary dispensing technician on inactive status may
27 not be required to meet the continuing education requirements of the board under
28 section 43-15.4-08. In order for a veterinary dispensing technician to change an
29 inactive status of registration to an active status of registration, the veterinary
30 dispensing technician must complete ten hours of approved continuing education and
31 thereafter comply with the continuing education requirements of the board.

1 **43-15.4-07. Supportive personnel.**

2 A duty that performance by a registered veterinary dispensing technician is neither required
3 nor prohibited may be performed by other employees of the veterinary retail facility.

4 **43-15.4-08. Veterinary dispensing technician continuing education.**

5 1. Each registered veterinary dispensing technician shall complete at least ten hours of
6 approved continuing education every year as a condition of renewal of a registration
7 as a veterinary dispensing technician in this state. Of the required ten hours of
8 continuing education, at least six hours must be of pharmacy technician continuing
9 education approved by the state board of pharmacy and at least four hours must be of
10 veterinary technician continuing education approved by the state board of veterinary
11 medical examiners.

12 2. There may be no carryover or extension of continuing education units with the
13 exception that continuing education units obtained twelve months prior to the
14 beginning of each annual reporting period may be used in the current annual reporting
15 period which begins March first of each year and ends the last day of February, or the
16 previous reporting period. However, the units may not be counted as credit in both
17 reporting periods. Failure to obtain the required ten hours of continuing education by
18 the renewal date may result in suspension for a minimum of thirty days or a maximum
19 of the period ending the date the continuing education is completed.

20 3. Veterinary dispensing technicians shall maintain their own records on forms supplied
21 by the board. The records must be maintained for a two-year period.

22 4. The requirements of this section do not apply to a veterinary dispensing technician
23 applying for a first renewal of a registration.

24 5. A veterinary dispensing technician registered with the board may make application to
25 the board for a waiver of compliance with the continuing education requirements and
26 may be granted an exemption by the board.

27 6. Upon request of the board, proof of compliance must be furnished to the board.

1 **43-15.4-09. Penalties for violation of rule regulating veterinary dispensing**
2 **technicians.**

3 The registration of a veterinary dispensing technician violating drug laws or rules may be
4 revoked by the state board of pharmacy, and the veterinary dispensing technician may be
5 subject to the penalties of section 43-15-42.1.