



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-159: USE OF VETERINARY TELEHEALTH

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Winter F.; Cutter

Fiscal Analyst:

Clayton Mayfield, 303-866-5851

clayton.mayfield@coleg.gov

Published for: Senate Ag. & Natural Resources

Drafting number: LLS 25-0604

Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: February 21, 2025

Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill modifies certain laws related to the practice of veterinary telehealth.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis starting in FY 2025-26:

- Minimal State Workload

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill modifies certain laws regarding the practice of veterinary telehealth. Specifically, the bill:

- allows veterinarians to establish a client-patient relationship through telehealth;
- clarifies the definition of telehealth;
- changes references in current law from “telemedicine” to “telehealth;”
- authorizes veterinarians to prescribe drugs through telehealth, with exceptions for controlled substances and antimicrobials;
- removes the requirement that veterinarians using telehealth be available in person for follow-up evaluations; and
- allows veterinary specialists, within their scope of practice, to prescribe drugs through telehealth.

State Expenditures

Workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies may increase to conduct additional rulemaking, provide information and outreach to practitioners, respond to complaints, and take disciplinary action against license holders. The department may require legal services, provided by the Department of Law, related to a rise in complaints. This workload is expected to be minimal, and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial

Personnel

Law

Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).