



Palm Beach Veterinary Society NEWS

Palm Beach Veterinary Society, Inc
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FALL 2021

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NEXT MEETING DATE

February 3, 2022

Location

**Mayacoo Lakes
Country Club**

Topic:

**Pharmacy &
Law Lecture**

6:30-9:30 pm

Entry Fee: Free to 2022 Paid
Members, \$150 Non-Member
www.pbvs.info/events

President's Letter

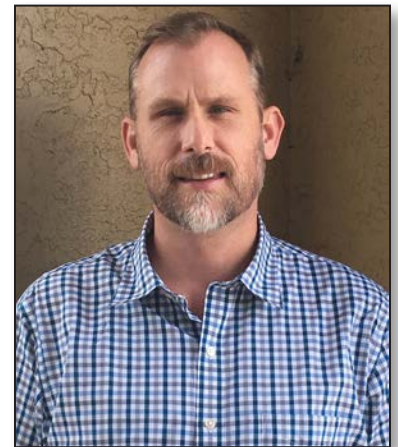
Dear Palm Beach Vet Society Members,

One month ago, we held our bi-annual officer elections during one of our virtual CE meetings. This, much like everything else during the past 2 years, was a novel approach for us and unfortunately, it bombed. No one was nominated by themselves or by another member for any of the board positions. Not one. Zip. Zilch. Nada. It seems as if we are playing the kids game "Not It!" As I have said before, I need to step back from my position as president of the association, but it seems that no one is willing to take my place. This creates a very precarious position for our organization.

Without someone to lead the association, the future of the Palm Beach Veterinary Society is in jeopardy and could possibly dissolve within the next 1-2 years. This would mean no local Continuing Education lectures, including the pharmacy & law lecture. No one would be your voice in Washington DC or Tallahassee regarding legislation that affects veterinarians – you would have to live with the decisions that someone else made for you without your interests at heart. Want to hire an associate veterinarian or deed a relief veterinarian to cover for you – good luck finding one because our job postings and relief vet list would not exist. Another infectious disease outbreak – hope you hear about it on the evening news or read it in the local paper. Unfortunately, this scenario has already happened to the Treasure Coast VMA, so the idea of the Palm Beach Vet Society dissolving is not unrealistic.

I know that the past 2 years of this pandemic has taken its toll on each of us mentally and physically. But I am making an impassioned plea to each and every one of you to consider taking on a leadership role, in the face of getting back to normal life. This association cannot survive without the participation of its members. If you have ever said to yourself, "I'd be willing to help out" well now is the time that we need you! How can you help? We need someone to serve as a representative to Animal Care & Control. We need people to plan and implement our CE lectures. Finally, we need someone to lead as president. Please reach out if you are willing to help our organization continue to thrive.

Sincerely,
Steve Simmons, DVM
President



Steve Simmons, DVM



Palm Beach Veterinary Society, Inc.

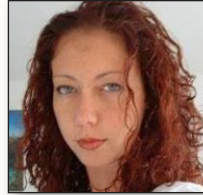
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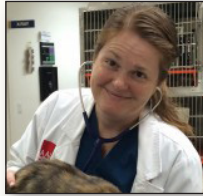
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MEETING SCHEDULE - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 3, 2022

Pharmacy & Law Lecture In Person

This lecture will be presented by Attorney Ed Bayo

Attorney Ed Bayo, partner at Grossman, Furlow and Bayo, will be giving a lecture entitled "The Laws and Rules Governing the Practice of Veterinary Medicine and Dispensing Legend Drugs". This lecture is intended to keep veterinarians up to date with respect to new laws that govern veterinary practice in Florida as well as the requirements for dispensing medications in practice. Attendance is for veterinarians only.



Ed's current practice at Grossman, Furlow and Bayo includes the representation of professional licensees, regulated entities and interested parties before regulatory agencies, Florida Courts and the Division of Administrative Hearings. He concentrates his practice in the areas of Administrative and Regulatory Law with emphasis on the laws and regulations affecting pharmacies, drug manufacturers and drug wholesalers.

He is a frequent speaker before local, state, and national professional organizations on licensure and regulatory issues, and has published several articles on these topics.

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This newsletter is published bimonthly by
Palm Beach Veterinary Society, Inc.
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The PBVS newsletter is provided to PBVS members free of charge. **Membership is \$150.00 per calendar year.**

For more information about membership please contact: Dr. Leanne Browne-Feldman at secretary@pbvs.info To advertise in this newsletter, please contact Dr. Karina Salvo at vicepresident@pbvs.info.

Editorial Guidelines:

Letters and articles are welcomed. All submissions must be signed and author's name will be published. Please submit entries via e-mail by the first of the month prior to the publication date to rsddugal@yahoo.com.

Ad Guidelines:

Please submit high resolution ads (300 dpi) in a jpeg or pdf format to newsletter@pbvs.info. Advertising rates are published on our website at www.pbvs.info/advertising. Payment must be received prior to publication.

Join Us Today and Become A Member!

Thank you for taking an interest in our organization. At Palm Beach Veterinary Society, we strive to help and unite veterinarians who are dedicated in providing the best Animal care.

As a society, we provide a forum for veterinarians to further assist in the exchange of professional business relations and promote the exchange of professional information.

If you are a veterinarian and are interested in joining our society, please fill out the 2016 membership form on the last page.

Membership cost for the year is \$150.00

Membership begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st

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We are pleased to announce that Dr. Jamie King has joined Dr. Peters on our Neurology team to help us provide appointment services Monday through Saturday and emergency services 7 days a week for your neurologic patients.

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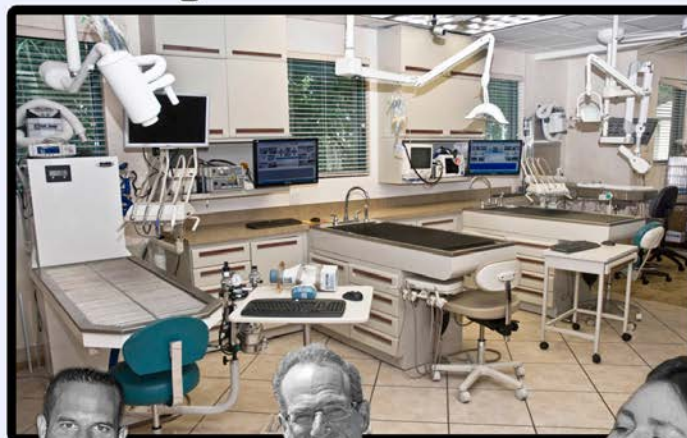
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FELINE HYPERTHYROIDISM

Six facts you need to know about hyperthyroidism

By Gary D. Norsworthy, DVM, DABVP (feline)

There are several important things a practitioner needs to know about hyperthyroidism (HT) before treatment is chosen and begun.

1) Staging

Hyperthyroidism is a slowly progressive disease. Although it will become life-threatening, it does not reach this stage for many months. The clinical signs and thyroid test results are both strongly influenced by the stage of the disease (Table 1). Treatment options are also influenced by the stage. (See "When not to treat with radioactive iodine.")

2) No single "right way"

Although radioactive iodine is considered the "gold standard" approach, each of the four options below has pros and cons. Radioactive iodine is not the best choice for every cat; neither are any of the others. One must assess the cat, the stage of the disease, and the owner before making a recommendation.

Here are some examples: The cost of radioactive iodine is usually a deterrent for most owners of 18-year-old-plus cats.

Methimazole is not an option when the cat reacts to it. Feeding y/d is not a good choice if the cat will not eat it

exclusively or the owner will not feed it exclusively.

Surgery is a poor choice for the cat with its systolic blood pressure is over 220 mmHg and/or a heart rate over 250 bpm.

You should assess the cat's physical condition and pillability, the owner's desires and limitations (physical and financial), and the availability of a surgeon or radioactive iodine therapy, and then make a recommendation.

Many times, finances drive the decision. Methimazole, especially the generic tablet form, is the least expensive initially, but that changes if the transdermal gel form is needed. Periodic rechecks for dose adjustments add substantially to the cost of this approach. Radioactive iodine for cats eight to 12 years of age is usually the least expensive over the lifetime of the cat, even though it is the most

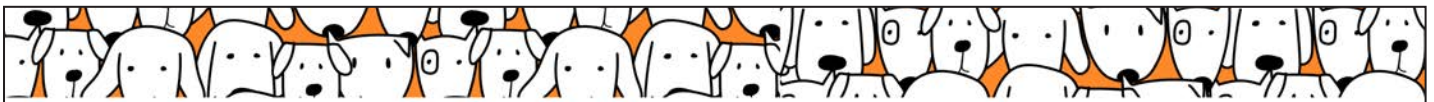
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Table 1: Norsworthy's staging system for hyperthyroidism*

Stage 1: TT4 = < 8.0 mg/dl	Stage 2: TT4 = 8.0 - 15.0 mg/dl	Stage 3: TT4 > 15.0 mg/dl
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mild, gradual weight loss.Very good appetite (not ravenous)ALT usually elevated (100-300 mg/dl) **Palpation score: 4/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Moderate and more rapid weight lossPolyphagiaALT elevated (200-400 mg/dl)Often has a murmurMild tachycardia (HR=225-240 BPM)Mild hypertension (BP=180-220 mmHg) **Palpation score: 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Severe weight loss (emaciation)Severe polyphagiaALT elevated (often > 400 mg/dl)Murmur usually presentTachycardia (HR=240+)Hypertension usually present (BP > 200 mmHg)Hyperactivity/sleeps lessUnkempt haircoat **Palpation score: 6/6

*There is not a recognized staging system for feline hyperthyroidism. This system was devised by the author for his clinical use. The points in each stage are generally applicable, but exceptions exist.

**The thyroid lobe(s) may not be palpable in hyperthyroid cats because your palpation technique is not sufficient or because the thyroid tumor(s) are intrathoracic (in ectopic thyroid tissue).



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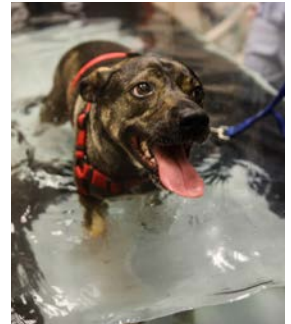
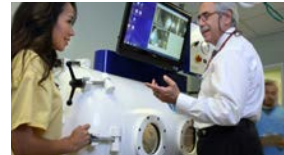


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FELINE HYPERTHYROIDISM

SIX FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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expensive initially.

*"In older cats with supportive clinical signs, total T4 has a high sensitivity, and serum concentrations will be increased in over 90 percent of cases."*¹

3) Diagnostic mistakes

Although the total T4 (TT4) is considered the standard test for HT, the free T4 (fT4) is considered more sensitive, especially in early HT. However, the fT4 is not as specific. Up to 30 percent of sick euthyroid cats will have elevated fT4 concentrations.⁴ If the cat has symptoms of HT, especially if the thyroid lobes are palpably enlarged, but the TT4 is normal, I suggest doing a T3 suppression test instead of relying on a fT4. (See Table 2.) I have had many cats referred to me for radioactive iodine treatment that were really not hyperthyroid but had elevated fT4 tests.

"Given the poor specificity of free T4 for diagnosing feline HT, results should be interpreted with caution, especially in cats with normal T4 values. It is not recommended as a sole diagnostic criterion for confirmation of the disease."²

4) Identifying concurrent mimicking diseases

The classic clinical signs of HT are weight loss (WL) and polyphagia. Chronic vomiting is frequently listed as another common sign. However, chronic small bowel disease (CSBD) (i.e., inflammatory bowel disease and alimentary lymphoma) is far more common than HT, and is often concurrent in cats with HT.

After working with over 800 cats with CSBD and treating more than 1,300 cats with radioactive iodine, I am firmly convinced chronic vomiting is not (or only rarely) a symptom of HT. Rather, the hyperthyroid cat that is vomiting chronically almost always has CSBD and then becomes hyperthyroid. If that is the case, following treatment for HT, the vomiting continues.

When presented with a cat with chronic vomiting that has HT, I recommend an ultrasound study of the small bowel looking for thickening of the small bowel walls. When the walls are



There is no single treatment option for hyperthyroidism in cats. Take a number of factors into consideration before deciding on a treatment plan.

thickened, the next diagnostic step is small bowel biopsy. I strongly prefer full-thickness biopsies of at least three locations identified as thickened by visual inspection. At least one biopsy should be in each of the anatomical regions (duodenum, jejunum, and ileum).

However, even if CSBD is diagnosed histologically, it is essential HT be controlled or cured. Otherwise, WL will continue.

"Many of these cats have primary gastrointestinal disease, which is difficult to diagnose from physical exam, laboratory or radiographic findings. Therefore, the finding of disproportionately severe clinical signs in any cat that has a lower-than-expected serum T4 value should prompt further diagnostics (e.g. abdominal ultrasound and/or endoscopy) to rule out concurrent disease."³

Another common mistake is attributing rapid WL to HT. Although HT can cause severe WL, the WL is gradual until the disease is in Stage 3. If the WL is rapid (greater than 1 lb per month) and the TT4 is less than 15 mg/dl, look for another cause of the WL. This search usually takes us back to CSBD.

5) Renal masking

Because HT is a disease of older cats, many of them will have underlying kidney disease. Stage 2

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FELINE HYPERTHYROIDISM

SIX FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Continued from page 8

thyroid disease and Stage 3 thyroid disease often cause tachycardia and systemic hypertension, forcing more blood through the kidneys. Since the kidneys are filters, pushing more blood through them results in improved function.

If IRIS Stage 2 or 3 renal disease is present, the creatinine value at the time of HT diagnosis may be normal or even low normal. When HT is treated (with any of the four options) the resulting normal heart rate and blood pressure will cause reduced (actually normal) blood flow through the kidneys, and underlying kidney disease will be unmasked.

Predicting this occurrence will save a very embarrassing and frustrating event, namely renal failure one to two weeks after euthyroidism is achieved. There is no way to predict it 100 percent of the time, but the methimazole trial or "Tapazole Test" is the best one we have. Methimazole is given to achieve euthyroidism; this may take two to five weeks depending on the level of the TT4. I usually

6) When not to treat with radioactive iodine

Radioactive iodine destroys active thyroid cells, both normal and neoplastic. When the thyroid adenoma begins (Stage 1), most normal thyroid cells are still functional. If radioactive iodine is given at this point in time, the tumor and many or all normal thyroid cells will be destroyed. Insufficient numbers of functional thyroid cells result in permanent hypothyroid.

This state can be detected by the presence of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) in the blood. If TSH levels are detectable, the cat should not be treated, and TSH levels should be determined about every two months until it is no longer detectable. Our protocol is to perform a TSH level on cats with TT4 values of 8 mg/dl or less. Since this is not routinely performed by many radioactive iodine treatment centers, I suggest you perform this test before sending the cat for treatment.

If you are uncomfortable not treating the cat immediately, remember these are Stage 1 cats and HT is a slowly progressive disease. The cat does not become critically ill in just a few weeks.

Some cats with the

correct clinical signs are diagnosed when the TT4 is in the high end of the normal range. Although the diagnosis may be correct, it is still important to perform a TSH level before treating with radioactive iodine.

"If the serum TSH concentration is measurable, this indicates that primary TSH secretion is not completely suppressed and normal thyroid tissue might also uptake and concentrate I131, which increases the chance for iatrogenic hypothyroidism."⁴

Table 2: Protocol and Interpretation for a T3 suppression test

- 1) Collect blood and separate the serum. Store it in a freezer at 0 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 2) Put the cat on T3 (Cytomel) at 25 mcg q8h for 7 doses.
- 3) Collect a second blood sample two to four after the seventh dose.
- 4) Submit both samples together and request a "T3 Suppression Test" which consists of a T3 and a T4 on both samples.

Findings: The "normal cat" will suppress. This means the second T4 will be < 50 percent of the first one. The HT cat will not suppress.

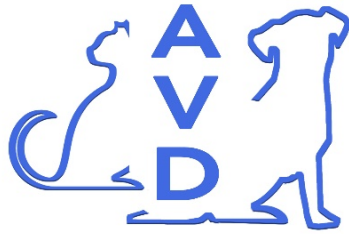
Note: The T3s are to validate the test. The second T3 should be considerably higher than the first one because you are giving T3. If it is not, the test is not valid.

recommend giving it for two to three weeks before the recheck. Renal values (creatinine, SDMA, BUN) are performed at the same time. These values should be about the same values that will occur after radioactive iodine, thyroidectomy, or y/d administration.

I recommend doing a methimazole trial if the TT4 is 15 mg/dl or greater, if the cat is 15 years old or greater, or if you or the owner wants to do it. It is not wrong to do it on any hyperthyroid cat, but the diagnostic yield will be very low for cats with Stage 1 HT.

Continued on page 10

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FELINE HYPERTHYROIDISM SIX FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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Pre-treatment TSH testing is not indicated for cats to be treated with methimazole, y/d, and thyroidectomy.

There is no feline-specific TSH test. Our commercial laboratories use the canine-specific test. That does not appreciatively affect the results.

Gary D. Norsworthy, DVM, DABVP (feline), started treating hyperthyroid cats shortly after the disease was documented in 1979.⁵ At the time, the only option available was methimazole. Dr. Mark Peterson was the first veterinarian licensed to treat with radioactive iodine in 19806, and various thyroidectomy techniques were used and modified, one of which Dr. Norsworthy published in 1995.⁷ The dietary approach was added in 2011. Norsworthy developed a sensitive thyroid palpation technique in 2002 which greatly aided early diagnosis.^{8,9} His hospital, Alamo Feline Health Center, obtained a license to use radioactive iodine in 2003. Over 1300 cats using this "gold standard" approach have been treated at his hospital, which is one of only four sites in Texas licensed to treat hyperthyroid cats with radioactive iodine.

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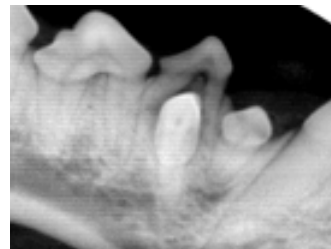


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Nova Animal Hospital

Looking for a veterinarian to join the team at Nova Animal Hospital in Davie! Set your schedule to allow the work/life balance that you want! Part time or full time work is available at this predominantly dog/cat practice, equipped with in-house labs, digital Xray, Philips ultrasound, dental Xray, full anesthesia monitoring, multiple doctors, collaborative clinic culture, and plenty of experienced and helpful staff. Generous compensation with comprehensive benefits- including 401K with 4% matching. Contact Meg Formoso at (954) 260-8105 or (954) 475-1550. See our listing at <https://jobs.avma.org/jobs/15345968/veterinarian-ft-or-pt-fort-lauderdale-area>.

VETERINARIAN, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Animal Care & Control Division.

Salary Commensurate with experience. Performs a broad variety of clinical, laboratory, and surgical activities for the shelter clinic and public spay/neuter services. Performs high-volume spay, neuter, and inoculation of adult and juvenile animals in compliance with established laws and policies. Examines/treats impounded and adopted animals; directs separation of diseased animals for treatment; issues certificates containing health status for adopted animals. Performs emergency treatment/surgery upon injured and diseased animals; may work with fractious/potentially rabid, diseased, or zoonotic animals. Assists in developing medical protocols and standard operating procedures; processes cruelty cases; performs necropsies; writes medical reports; presents cases in court; develops and delivers educational presentations in-house and to various organizations; participates in vaccine and spay/neuter clinics in targeted areas of the County. Exercises independent medical judgment and skill while performing duties for the care and treatment of animals within the shelter. Must be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Florida. Location: 7100 Belvedere Road, WPB; 40 Variable hours/week, including evenings and weekends; will be required to work rotational on-call for after hour shelter emergencies and disaster response. Apply at www.pbcgov.jobs No email resumes accepted. EO/AA M/F/D/Veterans Preference Employer, DFWP. All PB County employees may be required to work before, during and/or after a natural or man-made disaster or hurricane.

To place a classified ad, please use the Contact Us page for assistance. (www.pbvs.info/contact-us/)
Advertising rates: Practice for Sale: \$120, DVM wanted



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Deerfield Beach
Fort Lauderdale
South Miami

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www.animalcancercareclinic.com

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**Advertising rates: Practice for Sale: \$120,
 DVM wanted (1 paragraph): \$60, DVM
 wanted (2 paragraphs): \$120,
 Equipment for Sale: \$30**

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www.pbvs.info/join-us

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Clinical Behavior Resident

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info@flvetbehavior.com

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Martin County
 Animal Eye Specialty Clinic
 2239 S Kanner Hwy., Stuart
 772-220-8485

Broward County
 Coral Springs Animal Hospital
 2160 N University Dr., Coral Springs
 954-753-1800

Palm Beach County
 Animal Eye Specialty Clinic
 3421 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach
 561-967-5966

Miami-Dade
 Animal Eye Specialty Clinic
 20290 NW 2nd Avenue, Miami
 (305) 652-0448

RELIEF VETERINARIANS

We are continually updating our list of relief veterinarians. If you would like to be listed on this page, please email secretary@pbvs.info. Your membership in the society must be up to date.

Relief Veterinarian	Specialty	Phone	Email
Karen Baker	Sm Animal medicine	561-762-7099	drkarendvm@aol.com
Blaine Brennock	Sm Animal medicine	561-755-0239	RollingVetServicesLLC@gmail.com
Doris Caraballo	Sm Animal medicine & surgery	787-410-9462	doriska32@yahoo.com
Diana Drogan	Sm Animal medicine	954-854-9426	dr.diana.dvm@gmail.com
Alfonso Garcia Gonzalez	Sm Animal medicine & surgery	561-602-7104	algargon@hotmail.com
Laura Grigsby	Sm Animal medicine	561-346-2579	DrLauraGrigsby@gmail.com
Joseph Palmeri	Sm Animal medicine	631-636-2770	drjoedvm02@gmail.com
Peter Pion	Sm Animal medicine	561-702-7536	retepnoip@aol.com
Karina Salvo	Sm Animal medicine	561-250-2031	salvodvm@gmail.com
Kelly Waller	Sm Animal medicine	954-242-2042	KellyKWaller@gmail.com

FLORIDA BILLS TO WATCH FOR THE 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Below is a listing of current and previous legislative bills that have been introduced in the Florida Legislature.

For additional information visit our website at: pbvs.info/legislation-updates

Proposed bill	Summary of Proposed Bill or Regulation	Status
HB 25 SB 226	<p>Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs</p> <p>Creates Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs Program within FDLE; requires department to contract with nonprofit corporation to administer & manage program; specifies requirements for nonprofit corporation & disbursement of funds for veterinary care of eligible retired law enforcement dogs.</p>	
HB 87	<p>Criminal History in Professional Licensing Applications</p> <p>Revises period of time when conviction, or any other adjudication, for crime may not be grounds for denial of licensure in specified professions; provides exception; removes provision requiring good moral character for licensure in such professions; requires applicable board to approve certain educational program credits offered to inmates in certain institutions or facilities for purposes of satisfying training requirements for licensure in specified professions.</p>	
HB 121 SB 256	<p>Aggravated Animal Cruelty</p> <p>Prohibits certain acts against an animal while engaged in specified offenses; prohibits unlawful killing an animal belonging to family member.</p>	
HB 227 SB 172	<p>Courtroom Animal Advocates</p> <p>Provides for appointment of advocate for interests of animal in certain court proceedings, at discretion of court; provides powers & duties of such advocates; requires Animal Law Section of The Florida Bar to maintain list of attorneys & certified legal interns meeting specified requirements who are eligible to be appointed as such advocates; specifies that certain rules of The Florida Bar govern such advocates.</p>	
SB 238	<p>Endangered & Threatened Species</p> <p>Directing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to protect certain endangered or threatened species, regardless of the status of their federal classification; prohibiting the commission from considering certain costs when designating a species as endangered or threatened; directing the department, in consultation with the Endangered Plant Advisory Council, to protect certain endangered or threatened species, regardless of the status of their federal classification; prohibiting the department from considering certain costs when designating a species as endangered or threatened, etc.</p>	
HB 2041	<p>Zoo Miami Expansion / Renovation of Animal Hospital</p> <p>Provides an appropriation for the Zoo Miami Expansion/Renovation of Animal Hospital.</p>	
HB 6001	<p>Verification of Employee Eligibility by a Private Employer</p> <p>Removes option for private employer to verify person's employment eligibility using specified federal form; removes requirement that private employer maintain records for specified length of time; removes authorization for certain persons & entities to request, & requirement that private employer provide, documentation relating to person's employment eligibility.</p>	

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<p>HB 253</p>	<p>Retail Sale of Domestic Dogs & Cats</p> <p>Prohibits pet stores from selling or offering for sale domestic dogs & cats; provides penalties.</p>	
<p>HB 307</p>	<p>Pub. Rec/ Animal Adoption</p> <p>Provides exemption from public records requirements for records containing certain information pertaining to persons who have adopted an animal from an animal shelter or animal control agency operated by local government; provides for future legislative review & repeal of exemption; provides statement of public necessity.</p>	
<p>SB 416</p>	<p>Animal Cremation</p> <p>Creating "Sevilla's Law"; requiring a provider of companion animal cremation services to provide certain individuals and entities with a written description of the services that the provider offers; requiring the written description to include a detailed explanation of each service offered; requiring certain providers to include a certification with the returned animal's cremation remains; providing powers of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, etc.</p>	
<p>HB 435 SB 420</p>	<p>Animal Abuse</p> <p>Increasing the criminal penalties for sexual activities involving animals; assigning an offense severity ranking for sexual activities involving animals for purposes of the Criminal Punishment Code; increasing the offense severity ranking for fighting or baiting animals for purposes of the Criminal Punishment Code, etc.</p>	
<p>SB 448</p>	<p>Veterinary Telehealth</p> <p>Citing this act as the "Providing Equity in Telemedicine Services (PETS) Act"; defining the term "telemedicine"; authorizing veterinarians to practice telemedicine; requiring veterinarians using telemedicine to establish a veterinarian/client/patient relationship and meet certain professional standards; authorizing employees, agents, or contractors of animal control authorities to administer rabies vaccinations under certain circumstances; providing that a supervising veterinarian assumes responsibility for any person vaccinating animals at the supervising veterinarian's discretion or under his or her supervision, etc.</p>	
<p>SB 614</p>	<p>Authorization of Restrictions Concerning Dangerous Dogs</p> <p>Authorizing certain housing authorities to adopt certain ordinances, rules, or policies relating to dangerous dogs; removing an exemption for local ordinances adopted before a specified date which pertain to dogs that have bitten or attacked persons or domestic animals, etc.</p>	