

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5804**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled
"Public health code,"
(MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211) by adding section 18818.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **Sec. 18818. Except as otherwise provided in section 18818a, a**
2 **veterinarian shall not engage in the practice of veterinary**
3 **medicine unless it is within the context of a veterinarian-client-**
4 **patient relationship. Subject to federal law, all of the following**
5 **requirements must be met for a veterinarian-client-patient**
6 **relationship to exist:**

7 **(a) The veterinarian must assume responsibility for making**
8 **clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need**
9 **for medical treatment and its owner must have agreed to follow the**



1 veterinarian's instructions.

2 (b) The veterinarian must have sufficient knowledge of the
3 animal to initiate, at a minimum, a general or preliminary
4 diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal.

5 (c) The veterinarian must be readily available, or must
6 arrange for emergency coverage, for a follow-up evaluation in the
7 event of an adverse reaction or the failure of the treatment
8 regimen. The veterinarian shall provide the owner with the option
9 of having the follow-up evaluation described in this subdivision
10 performed in person with a veterinarian.

11 (d) The veterinarian must have recently examined the animal in
12 person or obtained current knowledge of the animal through the use
13 of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment through which images
14 and medical records may be transmitted electronically or through a
15 referral from another veterinarian.

16 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
17 unless House Bill No. 4912 of the 101st Legislature is enacted into
18 law.

