

HOUSE BILL NO. 5804

February 23, 2022, Introduced by Rep. Alexander and referred to the Committee on Rules and Competitiveness.

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**

1 relationship to exist:

2 (a) The veterinarian must assume responsibility for making
3 clinical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need
4 for medical treatment and its owner must have agreed to follow the
5 veterinarian's instructions.

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

9 (c) The veterinarian must be readily available, or must
10 arrange for emergency coverage, for a follow-up evaluation in the
11 event of an adverse reaction or the failure of the treatment
12 regimen.

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

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