

LFC Requester:	Eric Chenier
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov

(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 02/12/2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB 366 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Gail Armstrong **Agency Name and Code Number:** New Mexico Medical Board-446
Person Writing Analysis: Monique Parks, Interim Exec. Director
Short Title: Veterinarian as Health Practitioner **Phone:** 505-490-3903 **Email:** moniquem.parks@nm.mb.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected

Total						
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(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

HB366- Includes veterinarians in the definition of “health care practitioner” under the Health Care Practitioner Agreements provisions of the Health Care Code for the limited purpose of bringing a veterinarian within the professional employment agreement safeguards offered by the code. Health care practitioner agreements provisions apply to veterinarians’ agreements or renewals or extensions of agreement executed on or after the effective date of the act.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

A veterinarian is not considered a health care practitioner in the traditional sense because the term "health care practitioner" typically refers to professionals who provide medical care to humans. Veterinarians are animal health professionals who diagnose, treat, and prevent illnesses in animals, which places them in the field of veterinary medicine rather than human health care.

They are licensed professionals with extensive medical training, but because their focus is on non-human patients, they are classified separately from physicians, nurses, and other human health care practitioners.

While veterinarians are highly trained medical professionals, they fall under a separate legal and regulatory structure designed specifically for their field.

Classifying veterinarians as health care practitioners could create legal and regulatory conflicts.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

ALTERNATIVES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

AMENDMENTS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board