

*Why It Makes **Sense** to*



# **EXEMPT VETERINARIANS**

**from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**

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**SB 132: AN ACT EXEMPTING VETERINARIANS FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION DATABASE.**

**Supported By**

Alaska State Veterinary Medical Association

Alaska Board of Veterinary Examiners

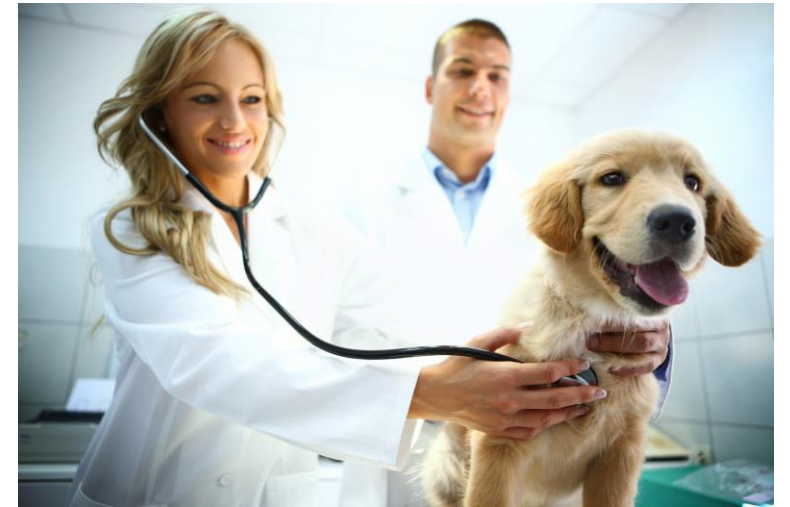
Alaska Board of Pharmacy



# Background of Controlled Substance Prescription Database:

*Referred to as PDMP*

- ❑ Veterinarians (with a Drug Enforcement Agency permit) required to participate in the **PDMP since 2017**
- ❑ Participation involves **both querying and reporting** into the PDMP database (under certain circumstances) for some categories of controlled substances.
- ❑ The PDMP was intended to be a **secure online database to improve public health** and to allow practitioners to look for duplicate prescribing, possible misuse, drug interactions, and potential concerns related to the overuse of opioids.



# Our Objective Today is to Discuss:

## Ineffective Tool

- Why the PDMP doesn't work in veterinary medicine

## Privacy Issues

- Privacy and liability issues

## Low Opioid Risk

- Low use of opioids in veterinary medicine

## Costly Oversight

- Large PDMP investigative costs with no shown benefit

## Business Burden

- Onerous to comply → Staff Shortages → High Licensing Fees





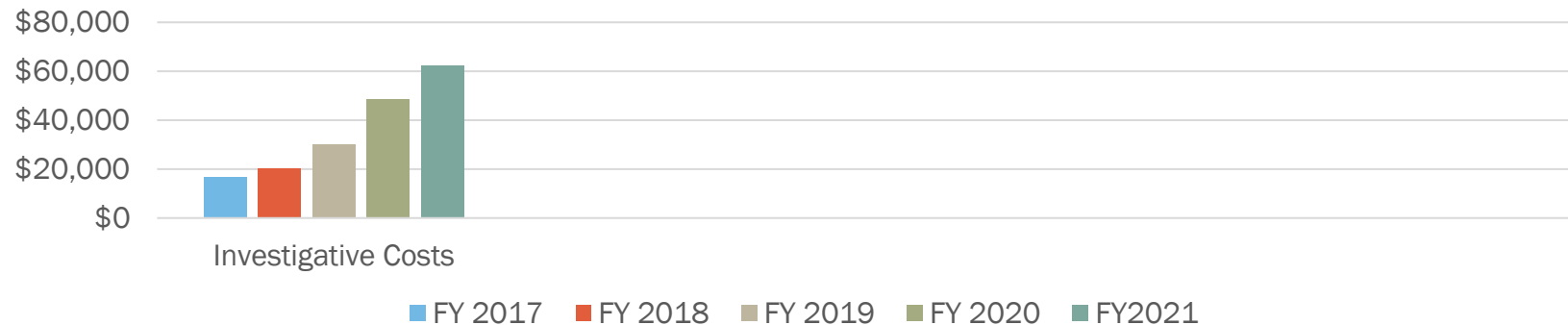
## Why It Makes **Sense to Exempt:**

**Costly Oversight**

The unwieldy PDMP leads to **costly oversight** with no shown benefit.

**Costly and onerous** requirements for monitoring veterinarians have been placed on the board of veterinary examiners (BOVE).

BOVE Investigative Costs for Veterinarians



Alaska veterinarians have the **highest licensing fee** in the country.



## Why It Makes **Sense to Exempt:**

**Business Burden**

The PDMP has increased *business burdens* for Veterinarians.

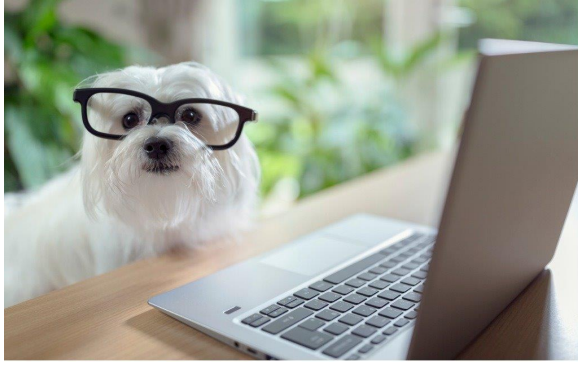
- Charging veterinarians for the cost of enforcement of an unusable PDMP system that **provides no identifiable benefit** is not responsible stewardship of resources.
  - ✓ Widespread **shortage of veterinary professionals** in Alaska
  - ✓ Time spent on the PDMP **lessens productivity for patient care**
  - ✓ Higher business costs = **higher fees** for services

# Why It Makes **Sense to Exempt:**

## Oversight in Place

Veterinarians are *monitored* by the Drug Enforcement Agency and must adhere to controlled substance regulations.

- Veterinarians who prescribe or dispense controlled substances are licensed through Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).
- Significant level of accountability, record keeping, and medication storage requirements for veterinarians.
- Distributors of controlled substances **monitor utilization patterns** of veterinarians.
  - ✓ Suspicious Order Monitoring System is in place and data is gathered by distribution companies
  - ✓ Required by DEA to monitor and report unusual purchase patterns of a veterinarian
  - ✓ Required to flag purchases that fall outside of norms for either previous purchase history or norms for practices of similar size/type
- DEA oversight is to **control/prevent diversion** from licensed professionals to drug dealers and users.



Why **?** Invest

Valuable resources into a problem, that doesn't benefit the problem?

Ineffective Tool

Privacy Issues

It Makes **Sense to Exempt** Veterinarians from the PDMP

Low Opioid Risk

Business Burden

Costly Oversight





Urge **YES VOTE** on SB 132

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Thank you! Questions?