

**SUBJECT:** Requiring TBVME to dismiss baseless or unfounded complaints

**COMMITTEE:** Agriculture & Livestock — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 8 ayes — Cain, Anderson, Goodwin, Cody Harris, Kitzman, Rosenthal, Thimesch, Wilson

0 nays

1 absent — Bernal

**WITNESSES:** For — Trent Hightower, Texas Veterinary Medical Association

Against — Judy Santerre; Jodi Ware

On — Brittany Sharkey, TBVME

**BACKGROUND:** Some have suggested that because the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME) lacks statutory authority to dismiss meritless complaints, the board has fewer resources to spend on legitimate complaints, which contributes to long resolution times.

**DIGEST:** HB 3049 would require the TBVME to dismiss complaints filed with the board that were determined to be baseless or unfounded. A statement would be included in the record of the complaint that the complaint was dismissed because it was baseless or unfounded. TBVME would be required to adopt rules that established the criteria for determining that a complaint was baseless or unfounded.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.