



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES

## State Direct Licensing Laws and Access to Euthanasia Drugs

For the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) chart of mid-level practitioners, see:

<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/practioners/index.html>

State	State Direct Licensing Law	State law permits access to these drugs:	State law grants access to these facilities:	DEA Mid-Level Practitioner Designation	On-the-Ground: Do shelters have access to:	
					Sodium Pentobarbital?	Ketamine?
<b>Alabama</b>	Ala. Code § 34-29-130 to § 34-29-134	sodium pentobarbital, sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine, or other similar agents	any facility approved by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners that operates for the collection and care of stray, neglected, abandoned, or unwanted dogs and cats, or a federally licensed wildlife rehab center	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes
<b>Alaska</b>	A.S. § 08.02.050	sodium pentobarbital, sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine, and other drugs authorized in regulations adopted by the department	animal control agency of a municipality or recognized governmental entity or an entity that has contracted with a municipality or recognized governmental entity to perform animal control or animal euthanasia services.	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes
<b>Arizona</b>	A.R.S. § 3-1213	sodium pentobarbital or T-61 euthanasia solution or its generic equivalent.	county, city and town animal pounds	Law enforcement or city animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Arkansas</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes

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<b>California</b> <sup>1</sup>	Cal Bus & Prof Code § 4840 (c)	Sodium pentobarbital	Registered veterinary technicians	NO	NO	NO
<b>Colorado</b>	CRSA § 12-22-304 (3b)	sodium pentobarbital, or sodium pentobarbital in combination with other prescription drugs that are medically recognized for euthanasia; drugs commonly used for the chemical capture of animals for control purposes or to sedate or immobilize pet animals immediately prior to euthanasia	A humane society that is duly registered with the secretary of state and has been in existence and in business for at least five years in this state as a nonprofit corporation, or an animal control agency that is operated by a unit of government	Law enforcement or city animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Connecticut</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Delaware</b>	3 Del.C. § 8002(c)	Sodium pentobarbital	Animal shelters	NO	NO	NO
<b>District of Columbia</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Florida</b>	F.S.A. § 828.055 (2)	sodium pentobarbital and sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine	county or municipal animal control agencies or humane societies registered with the Secretary of State	Animal shelter	Yes	YES
<b>Georgia</b> <sup>2</sup>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Hawaii</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO

<sup>1</sup> Section 4827 allows the use of sodium pentobarbital without a vet by shelters and humane societies, but doesn't grant shelters access to the drugs. Section 4840 does grant vet techs access to sodium pentobarbital.

<sup>2</sup> The provision § 4-11-5.1 states that sodium pentobarbital is the exclusive method of euthanasia for shelters, and says a "lay person" who is not a veterinarian can perform euthanasia – but it doesn't say that shelters have direct access to the drugs.

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<b>Idaho</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Animal shelter, administer & procure only	Yes	Yes
<b>Illinois</b>	§ 510 ILCS 72/25	Schedule II and Schedule III drugs	licensed animal control facility or animal shelter	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes
<b>Indiana</b>	IC § 35-48-3-2	sodium pentobarbital, ketamine and ketamine products, and a combination product containing tiletamine and zolazepam	Any humane society, animal control agency, or governmental entity operating an animal shelter or other animal impounding facility	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Iowa</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Kansas</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Kentucky</b>	KRS § 321.207	Sodium pentobarbital or other drugs as authorized by the Board of Veterinary Examiners	certified animal control agency	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes
<b>Louisiana</b>	LSA-R.S. 40:1033	Sodium pentobarbital	Any duly incorporated humane society contracted to perform animal control services by a parish or municipality or any parish or municipal animal control agency	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	Yes
<b>Maine</b>	17 M.R.S. § 1042	“euthanasia solution”	licensed animal shelter having both a consulting veterinarian and a certified euthanasia technician	Animal shelter	Yes	NO
<b>Maryland</b>	Md. Agriculture C. Ann. § 2-305	drugs needed to sedate, euthanize, or sedate and euthanize animals	humane society, or a county or municipal designated animal shelter	Animal shelter, procure and administer	Yes	Yes

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<b>Massachusetts</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Michigan</b>	M.C.L.A. 333.7333	Sodium pentobarbital	Registered animal control shelter or animal protection shelter, class B dealer	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Minnesota</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Mississippi</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Missouri</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Montana</b>	MCA § 37-18-604	controlled substances approved by the board of veterinary medicine for purposes of euthanasia	Certified law enforcement agency, a public or private animal control agency, or a humane society organized for the prevention of cruelty to animals	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Nebraska</b>	Neb.Rev.St. §§ 54-2501 through 2506	sodium pentobarbital or any controlled substance used for the purpose of humane euthanasia of seized, stray, injured, sick, homeless, abandoned, or unwanted animals	Animal welfare organizations who have entered into a collaborating veterinarian agreement	NO	NO	NO
<b>Nevada</b>	N.R.S. § 453.381	Sodium pentobarbital	Euthanasia technician	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>New Hampshire</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>New Jersey</b>	N.J.S.A. § 24:21-11	Sodium pentobarbital	Officer, member of the board, owner, operator or manager of an incorporated humane society or a licensed animal control facility	Animal shelter, administer, dispense & procure	Yes	NO
<b>New Mexico</b>	N.M.S.A. §§ 77-1B-2; 77-1B-6.1;	non-narcotic schedule II or schedule III substances and chemicals as set forth	Euthanasia technicians	Law enforcement or city animal shelter	Yes	Yes

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	77-1B-8	in the Controlled Substances Act that are used for the purposes of euthanasia and pre-euthanasia of animals				
<b>New York</b>	McKinney's Public Health Law § 3305	ketamine hydrochloride and sodium pentobarbital	duly authorized agent of an incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals or a municipal animal control facility	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>North Carolina</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>North Dakota</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>Ohio</b>	R.C. § 4729.531	combination drugs that contain pentobarbital and at least one noncontrolled substance ingredient	Animal shelters	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Oklahoma</b>	4 Okl.St. Ann. § 502	denatured sodium pentobarbital or other drugs approved by the registering entity	Certified euthanasia technician, registered animal control officer	NO	NO	NO
<b>Oregon</b>	O.R.S. § 475.190	Sodium pentobarbital	humane society or animal control agency	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	3 P.S. § 328.6	Sodium pentobarbital	humane society organization or an animal control organization	NO	NO	NO
<b>Rhode Island</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO
<b>South Carolina</b>	Code 1976 § 47-3-420	barbituric acid derivative or tranquilizing agent	animal shelter, governmental animal control agency, or the Department of Natural Resources	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>South Dakota</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NO	NO

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<b>Tennessee</b>	T.C.A. § 63-12-141	sodium pentobarbital or other drugs as authorized by the board of veterinary medical examiners	Animal control agency	Animal shelter	Yes	NO
<b>Texas</b>	Health & Safety Code § 481.111	Denatured sodium pentobarbital	humane society or an animal control agency	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Utah</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Only law enforcement or city animal shelter; requires listing of DVM	Yes	Yes
<b>Vermont</b>	13 V.S.A. § 371	“approved euthanasia solution”	Animal shelters	Animal shelter	Yes	NO
<b>Virginia</b>	Va. Code Ann. § 54.1-3425	any drug approved by the State Veterinarian for the purpose of euthanizing injured, sick, homeless, and unwanted domestic pets and animals	Humane society	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Washington</b>	RCWA § 69.50.310	Sodium pentobarbital	humane society and animal control agency	Animal shelter	Yes	NO
<b>West Virginia</b>	W.Va. Code § 30-10A-4 and § 30-10A-8	Sodium pentobarbital or replacement drug designated by the board of veterinary medicine	Tax exempt municipal or county run animal control facility, humane society or animal shelter incorporated and organized under the laws of the state, with one or more duly appointed agents	Animal shelter; requires listing of euthanasia technician	Yes	NO
<b>Wisconsin</b>	NONE	NONE	NONE	Animal shelter	Yes	Yes
<b>Wyoming</b>	W.S. § 33-30-216 and § 33-30-219	any pentobarbital-based drug labeled by the manufacturer for the	Certified animal euthanasia technician sponsored or employed by a law	Only law enforcement or DVM	Yes	Yes

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		purpose of euthanizing animals, with the exception of Schedule I drugs; any prescription drug labeled for veterinary use by the manufacturer for the purpose of immobilizing or sedating an animal to allow capture or handling and which is not a controlled substance under the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act	enforcement agency whose duties include whose duties include euthanizing unwanted, sick, injured or dangerous animals			

*Updated September 2009*