Requesting a Prescription from Your Veterinarian

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association code of ethics, your veterinarian should honor your request for a written prescription while continuing to provide the services you require; regardless of where you choose to purchase that prescription product.

"Thirty-six states have adopted laws, regulations or policy statements that specifically or implicitly require veterinarians to provide their clients with a written prescription upon request in some circumstances. Some of those states do so by incorporating into their discipline standards for veterinarians the AVMA's Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics, which state that veterinarians should honor a client's request for a prescription in lieu of dispensing. (Section III-C)."

The AVMA goes on to say, regardless of state law...

"...state boards of veterinary medicine could find in acting on a complaint, that failure to honor a client's request for a prescription constitutes unprofessional conduct, leading to discipline against a veterinarian. Unprofessional conduct generally refers to a departure from or failure to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of a veterinary medicine."

