As Reported by the House Agriculture are Rural Development Committee

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session 2017-2018

H. B. No. 501

Representatives LaTourette, Huffman

Cosponsors: Representatives Boggs, Carfagna, Cera, Hill, Kick, Koehler, Lipps, Roegner, Schaffer, Sweeney, Thompson, Young

A BILL

То	amend sections 955.16, 4729.531, 4729.532,	1
	4741.01, 4741.02, 4741.17, 4741.171, 4741.19,	2
	4741.22, 4741.221, and 4741.24 of the Revised	3
	Code to change professional title of "registered	4
	veterinary technician" to "registered veterinary	5
	nurse."	6

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 955.16, 4729.531, 4729.532,	7
4741.01, 4741.02, 4741.17, 4741.171, 4741.19, 4741.22, 4741.221,	8
and 4741.24 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:	9
Sec. 955.16. (A) Dogs that have been seized by the county	10
dog warden and impounded shall be kept, housed, and fed for	11
three days for the purpose of redemption, as provided by section	12
955.18 of the Revised Code, unless any of the following applies:	13
(1) Immediate humane destruction of the dog is necessary	14
because of obvious disease or injury. If the diseased or injured	15
dog is registered, as determined from the current year's	16
registration list maintained by the warden and the county	17

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auditor of the county where the dog is registered, the necessity of destroying the dog shall be certified by a licensed veterinarian or a registered veterinary technician nurse. If the dog is not registered, the decision to destroy it shall be made by the warden.

- (2) The dog is currently registered on the registration 23 list maintained by the warden and the auditor of the county 24 where the dog is registered and the attempts to notify the 25 owner, keeper, or harborer under section 955.12 of the Revised 26 Code have failed, in which case the dog shall be kept, housed, 27 and fed for fourteen days for the purpose of redemption. 28
- (3) The warden has contacted the owner, keeper, or harborer under section 955.12 of the Revised Code, and the owner, keeper, or harborer has requested that the dog remain in the pound or animal shelter until the owner, harborer, or keeper redeems the dog. The time for such redemption shall be not more than forty-eight hours following the end of the appropriate redemption period.

At any time after such periods of redemption, any dog not redeemed shall be donated to any nonprofit special agency that is engaged in the training of any type of assistance dogs and that requests that the dog be donated to it. Any dog not redeemed that is not requested by such an agency may be sold, except that no dog sold to a person other than a nonprofit teaching or research institution or organization of the type described in division (B) of this section shall be discharged from the pound or animal shelter until the animal has been registered and furnished with a valid registration tag.

(B) Any dog that is not redeemed within the applicable period as specified in this section or section 955.12 of the

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Revised Code from the time notice is mailed to its owner, keeper, or harborer or is posted at the pound or animal shelter, as required by section 955.12 of the Revised Code, and that is not required to be donated to a nonprofit special agency engaged in the training of any type of assistance dogs may, upon payment to the dog warden or poundkeeper of the sum of three dollars, be sold to any nonprofit Ohio institution or organization that is certified by the director of health as being engaged in teaching or research concerning the prevention and treatment of diseases of human beings or animals. Any dog that is donated to a nonprofit special agency engaged in the training of any type of assistance dogs in accordance with division (A) of this section and any dog that is sold to any nonprofit teaching or research institution or organization shall be discharged from the pound or animal shelter without registration and may be kept by the agency or by the institution or organization without registration so long as the dog is being trained, or is being used for teaching and research purposes.

Any institution or organization certified by the director that obtains dogs for teaching and research purposes pursuant to this section shall, at all reasonable times, make the dogs available for inspection by agents of the Ohio humane society, appointed pursuant to section 1717.04 of the Revised Code, and agents of county humane societies, appointed pursuant to section 1717.06 of the Revised Code, in order that the agents may prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty, as defined in section 1717.01 of the Revised Code, to the dogs.

(C) Any dog that the dog warden or poundkeeper is unable to dispose of, in the manner provided by this section and section 955.18 of the Revised Code, may be humanely destroyed, except that no dog shall be destroyed until twenty-four hours

section 4729.532 of the Revised Code. No such license shall

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accountability of euthanasia solutions;	165
(3) Euthanasia technician stress management;	166
(4) Proper disposal of euthanized animals.	167
(C)(1) Except as provided in division (D) of this section,	168
no agent or employee of an animal shelter shall perform	169
euthanasia by means of lethal injection on animals under this	170
section unless the facility in which <u>he</u> the agent or employee	171
works or is employed is licensed with the state board of	172
pharmacy under section 4729.531 of the Revised Code.	173
(2) Any agent or employee of an animal shelter performing	174
euthanasia by means of lethal injection shall do so only in a	175
humane and proficient manner that is in conformity with the	176
methods described in division (A) of this section and not in	177
violation of Chapter 959. of the Revised Code.	178
(D) An agent or employee of an animal shelter who is	179
performing euthanasia by means of lethal injection on animals on	180
or before the effective date of this section June 29, 1994, may	181
continue to perform such euthanasia and is not required to be	182
certified in compliance with division (B) of this section until	183
ninety days after the effective date of the rules adopted in	184
compliance with Section 3 of House Bill No. 88 of the 120th	185
general assembly.	186
Sec. 4741.01. As used in this chapter:	187
(A) "Animal" means any animal other than a human being and	188
includes fowl, birds, fish, and reptiles, wild or domestic,	189
living or dead.	190
(B) The "practice of veterinary medicine" means the	191
practice of any person who performs any of the following	192

veterinarian's partners, or associates, or any information in

reference to veterinary science, is made known to the public

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- (P) "Veterinary technology" means the science and art of providing professional support to veterinarians.
- (Q) "Patient" means an animal that is examined or treated
 by a licensed veterinarian.

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Sec. 4741.02. There shall be a state veterinary medical 282 licensing board consisting of seven members, who have been legal 283 residents of this state for not less than five years, appointed 284 by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate, as 285 follows: five members who have been licensed to practice 286 veterinary medicine in this state for not less than five 287 consecutive years prior to their appointment; one member who is 288 a registered veterinary technician nurse registered pursuant to 289 this chapter for not less than five consecutive years prior to 290 appointment; and one member who is a representative of the 291 public. Terms of office are for three years, commencing on the 292 first day of January and ending on the thirty-first day of 293 December. Each member shall hold office from the date of the 294 member's appointment until the end of the term for which the 295 member was appointed. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy 296 occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the 297 predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of 298 such term. Any member shall continue in office subsequent to the 299 expiration date of the member's term until a successor takes 300 office, or until a period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever 301 occurs first. No person who has been appointed a member of the 302 board shall be appointed to serve more than three, three-year 303 terms unless a period of three years has elapsed since the 304 termination of the member's third term, provided that a person 305 appointed to fill an unexpired term may be appointed for three 306 full terms of three years each immediately following such term 307 and that the total length of the member's service does not 308

exceed ten years.	309
No member of the board shall be the owner of any interest	310
in, or be employed by any wholesale or jobbing house dealing in	311
supplies, equipment, or instruments used or useful in the	312
practice of veterinary medicine. Neither the public member nor	313
the registered veterinary technician nurse member shall have any	314
vested financial interest in the practice of veterinary	315
medicine. For purposes of this section employment as a	316
veterinary technician nurse for a veterinarian does not	317
constitute a vested financial interest in the practice of	318
veterinary medicine.	319
The governor may remove any member of the board for	320
malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance after a hearing as	321
provided in Chapter 119. of the Revised Code or if the license	322
of a veterinary member is not renewed or has been revoked or	323
suspended on any ground set forth in section 3123.47 or 4741.22	324
of the Revised Code or if the registration of the registered	325
veterinary technician nurse member is revoked or suspended or is	326
not renewed under section 3123.47 or 4741.19 of the Revised	327
Code.	328
Each member of the board shall receive an amount fixed	329
pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code	330
for each day, or portion thereof, the member is actually engaged	331
in the discharge of official duties, in addition to the member's	332
necessary expenses.	333
Sec. 4741.17. (A) Applicants or registrants shall pay to	334
the state veterinary medical licensing board:	335
(1) For an initial veterinary license, on or after the	336
first day of March in an even-numbered year, four hundred	337

writing to that effect may be certified by the board as being 396 retired, provided the licensed veterinarian's license is in good 397 standing. The board may by rule waive the payment of the 398 registration fee of a licensed veterinarian or registered 399 veterinary technician nurse during the period when the licensed 400 veterinarian or registered veterinary technician nurse is on 401 active duty in connection with any branch of the armed forces of 402 the United States. 403

Each veterinarian licensed by the board, whether a 404 resident or not, shall notify, in writing, the executive 405 director of the board of any change in the licensed 406 veterinarian's office address or employment within ninety days 407 after the change has taken place. 408

Sec. 4741.19. (A) Unless exempted under this chapter, no 409 person shall practice veterinary medicine, or any of its 410 branches, without a license or limited license issued by the 411 state veterinary medical licensing board pursuant to sections 412 4741.11 to 4741.13 of the Revised Code, a temporary permit 413 issued pursuant to section 4741.14 of the Revised Code, or a 414 registration certificate issued pursuant to division (C) of this 415 section, or with an inactive, expired, suspended, terminated, or 416 revoked license, temporary permit, or registration. 417

- (B) No veterinary student shall:
- (1) Perform or assist surgery unless under direct

 veterinary supervision and unless the student has had the

 minimum education and experience prescribed by rule of the

 board;

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(2) Engage in any other work related to the practice of 423 veterinary medicine unless under veterinary supervision; 424

(3) Participate in the operation of a branch office,	425
clinic, or allied establishment unless a licensed veterinarian	426
is present on the establishment premises.	427
(C) No person shall act as a registered veterinary	428
technician <u>nurse</u> unless the person is registered with the board	429
on a biennial basis and pays the biennial registration fee. A	430
registered veterinary technician nurse registration expires	431
biennially on the first day of March in the odd-numbered years	432
and may be renewed in accordance with the standard renewal	433
procedures contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code upon	434
payment of the biennial registration fee and fulfillment of ten	435
continuing education hours during the two years immediately	436
preceding renewal for registration. Each registered veterinary	437
technician nurse shall notify in writing the executive director	438
of the board of any change in the registered veterinary	439
technician's nurse's office address or employment within ninety	440
days after the change has taken place.	441
(1) A registered veterinary technician nurse operating	442
under veterinary supervision may perform the following duties:	443
(a) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients,	444
instruments, equipment, and medications for surgery;	445
(b) Collect or supervise the collection of specimens and	446
perform laboratory procedures as required by the supervising	447
veterinarian;	448
(c) Apply wound dressings, casts, or splints as required	449
by the supervising veterinarian;	450
(d) Assist a veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic,	451
medical, and surgical procedures;	452
(e) Suture skin incisions;	453

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specialties for a specialty or such other requirements set by	482	
rule of the board and has paid the fee required by division (A)	483	
(10) of section 4741.17 of the Revised Code.	484	
(E) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, any	485	
animal owner or the owner's designee may engage in the practice	486	
of embryo transfer on the owner's animal if a licensed	487	
veterinarian directly supervises the owner or the owner's	488	
designee and the means used to perform the embryo transfer are	489	
nonsurgical.	490	
(F) Allied medical support may assist a licensed	491	
veterinarian to the extent to which the law that governs the	492	
individual providing the support permits, if all of the	493	
following apply:	494	
(1) A valid veterinary-client-patient-relationship exists.	495	
(2) The individual acts under direct veterinary	496	
supervision.	497	
(3) The allied medical support individual receives	498	
informed, written, client consent.	499	
(4) The veterinarian maintains responsibility for the	500	
patient and keeps the patient's medical records.	501	
The board may inspect the facilities of an allied medical	502	
support individual in connection with an investigation based on	503	
a complaint received in accordance with section 4741.26 of the	504	
Revised Code involving that individual.	505	
Sec. 4741.22. (A) The state veterinary medical licensing	506	
board may refuse to issue or renew a license, limited license,	507	
registration, or temporary permit to or of any applicant who,	508	
and may issue a reprimand to, suspend or revoke the license,	509	

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- (26) Engages in cruelty to animals;
- (27) Uses, prescribes, or sells any veterinary prescription drug or biologic, or prescribes any extra-label use of any over-the-counter drug or dangerous drug in the absence of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship.
- (B) Except as provided in division (D) of this section,

 before the board may revoke, deny, refuse to renew, or suspend a

 license, registration, or temporary permit or otherwise

 discipline the holder of a license, registration, or temporary

 permit, the executive director shall file written charges with

 the board. The board shall conduct a hearing on the charges as

 for the provided in Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.
- (C) If the board, after a hearing conducted pursuant to 606 Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, revokes, refuses to renew, or 607 suspends a license, registration, or temporary permit for a 608 violation of this section, section 4741.23, division (C) or (D) 609 of section 4741.19, or division (B), (C), or (D) of section 610 4741.21 of the Revised Code, the board may impose a civil 611 penalty upon the holder of the license, permit, or registration 612 of not less than one hundred dollars or more than one thousand 613 dollars. In addition to the civil penalty and any other 614 penalties imposed pursuant to this chapter, the board may assess 615 any holder of a license, permit, or registration the costs of 616 the hearing conducted under this section if the board determines 617 that the holder has violated any provision for which the board 618 may impose a civil penalty under this section. 619
- (D) The executive director may recommend that the board 620 suspend an individual's certificate of license without a prior 621 hearing if the executive director determines both of the 622 following:

under this chapter is automatically suspended upon that

individual's conviction of or plea of guilty to or upon a	653
judicial finding with regard to any of the following: aggravated	654
murder, murder, voluntary manslaughter, felonious assault,	655
kidnapping, rape, sexual battery, gross sexual imposition,	656
aggravated arson, aggravated robbery, or aggravated burglary.	657
The suspension shall remain in effect from the date of the	658
conviction, plea, or finding until an adjudication is held under	659
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. If the board has knowledge	660
that an automatic suspension has occurred, it shall notify the	661
individual subject to the suspension. If the individual is	662
notified and either fails to request an adjudication within the	663
time periods established by Chapter 119. of the Revised Code or	664
fails to participate in the adjudication, the board shall enter	665
a final order permanently revoking the individual's license or	666
registration.	667

- Sec. 4741.221. (A) The state veterinary medical licensing board may, prior to or after a hearing conducted under section 4741.22 of the Revised Code, and in lieu of taking or in addition to any action it may take under that section, refer any veterinarian or registered veterinarian technician nurse:
- (1) Who suffers from alcohol or substance abuse, to the Ohio veterinary medical association special assistance committee, the Ohio physicians health program, or an advocacy group approved by the board, for support and assistance in the coordination of the treatment of that veterinarian or technician nurse;
- (2) Who has violated any provision of this chapter for any
 offense for which the board normally would not seek the
 revocation or suspension of the person's license or
 registration, to the Ohio veterinary medical association special
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committee on peer review.	683
(B) To implement this section, the board shall adopt rules	684
in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.	685
Sec. 4741.24. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of	686
this section, any person whose license, registration, or	687
temporary permit is suspended or revoked may, at the discretion	688
of the state veterinary medical licensing board, be relicensed	689
or reregistered to practice at any time without an examination,	690
on application made to the board. The application for	691
reinstatement shall be in writing, in a form prescribed by the	692
board, signed by the applicant, and shall be delivered to the	693
executive director of the board.	694
(B) Any person whose license, registration, or temporary	695
permit has been revoked for a violation of section 4741.18,	696
4741.22, or 4741.23 or division (A), (C), or (D) of section	697
4741.19, division (A) of section 4741.20, or division (B) or (D)	698
of section 4741.21 of the Revised Code, shall be permanently	699
barred from practicing veterinary medicine or holding a license	700
to practice veterinary medicine or holding a registration as a	701
registered veterinary technician nurse in this state for a	702
subsequent violation of any of such provisions. The board shall,	703
by certified mail, notify all other state veterinary licensing	704
boards of permanent revocation actions.	705
(C) Any person whose license or temporary permit to	706
practice veterinary medicine is suspended or revoked is an	707
unlicensed person.	708
Section 2. That existing sections 955.16, 4729.531,	709
4729.532, 4741.01, 4741.02, 4741.17, 4741.171, 4741.19, 4741.22,	710
4741.221, and 4741.24 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	711

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Section 3. (A) A veterinary technician registration issued	712	
to a person under Chapter 4741. of the Revised Code that is	713	
valid on the effective date of this section continues in effect	714	
as if the registration is issued for a veterinary nurse. If the	715	
person applies to renew the registration after the effective	716	
date of this section, the person shall be registered as a	717	
veterinary nurse if the person is eligible for such renewal	718	
under applicable law.	719	
(B) In changing the term "registered veterinary	720	
technician" to "registered veterinary nurse," this act does not	721	
change the scope of practice of, or the registration or	722	
certification credentials required for, such registered	723	
individuals.	724	