

I_136_2242-4

136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026

Sub. H. B. No. 664

To amend section 4741.19 and to enact section 1
4741.191 of the Revised Code to establish 2
procedures that allow a registered veterinary 3
technician to establish an assess and treat 4
relationship on behalf of a veterinarian to 5
dispense and administer vaccines and 6
antiparasitic medication to a dog or cat. 7

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

Section 1. That section 4741.19 be amended and section 8
4741.191 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 9

Sec. 4741.19. (A) Unless exempted under this chapter, no 10
person shall practice veterinary medicine, or any of its 11
branches, without a license or limited license issued by the 12
state veterinary medical licensing board pursuant to sections 13
4741.11 to 4741.13 of the Revised Code, a temporary permit 14
issued pursuant to section 4741.14 of the Revised Code, or a 15
registration certificate issued pursuant to division (C) of this 16
section, or with an inactive, expired, suspended, terminated, or 17
revoked license, temporary permit, or registration. 18

(B) No veterinary student shall: 19



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(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;

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

(3) Participate in the operation of a branch office, clinic, or allied establishment unless a licensed veterinarian is present on the establishment premises.

(C) No person shall act as a registered veterinary technician unless the person is registered with the board on a biennial basis and pays the biennial registration fee. A registered veterinary technician registration expires biennially on the first day of March in the odd-numbered years and may be renewed in accordance with the standard renewal procedures contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code upon payment of the biennial registration fee and fulfillment of ten continuing education hours during the two years immediately preceding renewal for registration. Each registered veterinary technician shall notify in writing the executive director of the board of any change in the registered veterinary technician's office address or employment within ninety days after the change has taken place.

(1) A registered veterinary technician operating under veterinary supervision may perform the following duties:

(a) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients, instruments, equipment, and medications for surgery;

(b) Collect or supervise the collection of specimens and perform laboratory procedures as required by the supervising

veterinarian;	49
(c) Apply wound dressings, casts, or splints as required by the supervising veterinarian;	50 51
(d) Assist a veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic, medical, and surgical procedures;	52 53
(e) Suture skin incisions;	54
(f) Administer or supervise the administration of topical, oral, or parenteral medication under the direction of the supervising veterinarian;	55 56 57
(g) <u>Dispense and administer, in accordance with a care coordination agreement, a vaccine, including a rabies vaccine, to a covered animal as provided under section 4741.191 of the Revised Code;</u>	58 59 60 61
(h) Other ancillary veterinary technician functions that are performed pursuant to the order and control and under the full responsibility of a licensed veterinarian.	62 63 64
(h) (i) Any additional duties as established by the board in rule.	65 66
(2) A registered veterinary technician operating under direct veterinary supervision may perform all of the following:	67 68
(a) Induce and monitor general anesthesia according to medically recognized and appropriate methods;	69 70
(b) Dental prophylaxis, periodontal care, and extraction not involving sectioning of teeth or resection of bone or both of these;	71 72 73
(c) Equine dental procedures, including the floating of molars, premolars, and canine teeth; removal of deciduous teeth;	74 75

and the extraction of first premolars or wolf teeth. 76

The degree of supervision by a licensed veterinarian over 77
the functions performed by the registered veterinary technician 78
shall be consistent with the standards of generally accepted 79
veterinary medical practices. 80

(3) The board shall issue a registration to be a 81
veterinary technician in accordance with Chapter 4796. of the 82
Revised Code to an applicant if either of the following applies: 83

(a) The applicant holds a similar registration or license 84
in another state. 85

(b) The applicant has satisfactory work experience, a 86
government certification, or a private certification as 87
described in that chapter as a veterinary technician in a state 88
that does not issue that registration or license. 89

~~(D)~~ (D) (1) A veterinarian licensed to practice in this 90
state shall not present the person's self as or state a claim 91
that the person is a specialist unless the veterinarian has 92
previously met the requirements for certification by a specialty 93
organization recognized by the American board of veterinary 94
specialties for a specialty or such other requirements set by 95
rule of the board and has paid the fee required by division (A) 96
(10) of section 4741.17 of the Revised Code. 97

The board shall issue a certification as a veterinary 98
specialist in accordance with Chapter 4796. of the Revised Code 99
to an applicant if the applicant holds a certification as a 100
specialist in another state or has satisfactory work experience, 101
a government certification, or a private certification as 102
described in that chapter as a veterinary specialist in a state 103
that does not issue that certification. 104

(2) No person shall use the title "registered veterinary technician" or the title "veterinary technician," the abbreviation "R.V.T.," or any other words, letters, or symbols, with the intent to represent that the person is authorized to act as a registered veterinary technician, unless that person is registered with the board as required by this section and such registration is not suspended or revoked.

(E) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, any animal owner or the owner's designee may engage in the practice of embryo transfer on the owner's animal if a licensed veterinarian directly supervises the owner or the owner's designee and the means used to perform the embryo transfer are nonsurgical.

(F) Allied medical support may assist a licensed veterinarian to the extent to which the law that governs the individual providing the support permits, if all of the following apply:

(1) A valid ~~veterinary-client-patient-relationship~~ veterinary-client-patient relationship exists.

(2) The individual acts under direct veterinary supervision.

(3) The allied medical support individual receives informed, written, client consent.

(4) The veterinarian maintains responsibility for the patient and keeps the patient's medical records.

The board may inspect the facilities of an allied medical support individual in connection with an investigation based on a complaint received in accordance with section 4741.26 of the Revised Code involving that individual.

<u>Sec. 4741.191. (A) As used in this section:</u>	134
<u>(1) "Covered animal" means a dog or a cat.</u>	135
<u>(2) "Dog" means any member of the species Canis familiaris.</u>	136 137
<u>(3) "Cat" means any member of the species Felis catus.</u>	138
<u>(4) "Antiparasitic medication" means medication dispensed and administered, in accordance with a care coordination agreement, to a covered animal for the purpose of controlling apparent or anticipated internal or external parasites.</u>	139 140 141 142
<u>(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a licensed veterinarian may, consistent with any federal law requirements or restrictions and subject to the conditions described in this section, authorize a registered veterinary technician to establish an assess and treat relationship in accordance with a care coordination agreement on behalf of the veterinarian for either or both of the following purposes:</u>	143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150
<u>(1) To allow the registered veterinary technician to dispense and administer, in accordance with a care coordination agreement, vaccines, including the rabies vaccine, to a covered animal;</u>	151 152 153 154
<u>(2) To allow the registered veterinary technician to dispense and administer, in accordance with a care coordination agreement, antiparasitic medication to a covered animal.</u>	155 156 157
<u>(C) A registered veterinary technician dispensing and administering, in accordance with a care coordination agreement, such vaccines or antiparasitic medications under division (B) of this section is subject to veterinary supervision, and the</u>	158 159 160 161

requirement for such supervision may be met by a veterinarian 162
who is readily available to communicate with the registered 163
veterinary technician via telephonic means at all times during 164
the dispensation and administration. 165

(D) Prior to authorizing a registered veterinary 166
technician to establish an assess and treat relationship on 167
behalf of a veterinarian as authorized under this section, the 168
veterinarian shall establish a care coordination agreement 169
describing the duties the registered veterinary technician must 170
perform prior to and during the dispensation and administration 171
of any vaccine or antiparasitic medication. The agreement shall 172
include provisions regarding each of the following: 173

(1) Obtaining from the covered animal's owner or caretaker 174
the animal's available medical history; 175

(2) Requirements for examination of the covered animal 176
prior to dispensation and administration of a vaccine or 177
antiparasitic medication; 178

(3) Criteria, including any information in the covered 179
animal's history or physical examination, that would disqualify 180
the covered animal from receiving a vaccine or antiparasitic 181
medication; 182

(4) Vaccination protocols for each covered animal species 183
for which vaccines are dispensed and administered that include, 184
at a minimum, handling, dispensing, and administering of 185
vaccines, when not to dispense or administer such vaccines, and 186
what to do in the event of an adverse reaction or other 187
emergency. Such protocols shall not authorize the registered 188
veterinary technician to prescribe the vaccines, but only to 189
dispense and administer such vaccines. 190

(5) Protocols for parasite treatment and control for each 191
covered animal species for which antiparasitic medications are 192
being dispensed and administered, which shall include, at a 193
minimum, handling, dispensing, and administering of medications, 194
when not to dispense and administer such medications, and what 195
to do in the event of an adverse reaction or other emergency. 196
Such protocols shall not authorize the registered veterinary 197
technician to prescribe the antiparasitic medications, but only 198
to dispense and administer such antiparasitic medications. 199

(6) Requirements that a veterinarian be available to 200
physically respond in the event of an adverse reaction or other 201
emergency and protocols for contacting that veterinarian to 202
obtain such assistance in those events; 203

(7) Documentation of any additional education and training 204
provided by the veterinarian to the registered veterinary 205
technician in order for the registered veterinary technician to 206
perform all of the agreed upon duties within the care 207
coordination agreement; 208

(8) Documentation of all the following information: 209

(a) The name or initials of the registered veterinary 210
technician who establishes an assess and treat relationship on 211
behalf of the veterinarian; 212

(b) The name, address, and telephone number of the client; 213

(c) The name or identity of the covered animal; 214

(d) The age, sex, breed, species, and color of the covered 215
animal; 216

(e) The medical history information as it pertains to each 217
covered animal; 218

<u>(f) Any physical examination findings;</u>	219
<u>(g) Any assessment completed before dispensing or administering a vaccine or other medication;</u>	220 221
<u>(h) Client consent for recommended vaccines or antiparasitic medications;</u>	222 223
<u>(i) All medications and treatments, including strength, dosage, and route of administration;</u>	224 225
<u>(j) Record of relevant client communication, including whether an evaluation by a veterinarian or follow-up care was recommended.</u>	226 227 228
<u>(9) Any other information, protocols, and restrictions that the veterinarian determines are necessary and appropriate for the care coordination agreement.</u>	229 230 231
<u>(E) If a veterinarian authorizes a registered veterinary technician to establish an assess and treat relationship on behalf of the veterinarian, the veterinarian and the registered veterinary technician shall sign and date both of the following within the care coordination agreement:</u>	232 233 234 235 236
<u>(1) A statement containing the authorization for the registered veterinary technician to act on behalf of the veterinarian and to establish the assess and treat relationship for the limited purposes of dispensing and administering, in accordance with the care coordination agreement, vaccines and antiparasitic medication when acting in compliance with the protocols, conditions, and procedures specified in this section and within the care coordination agreement. The authorization remains in effect until the date the veterinarian terminates the authorization for the registered veterinary technician to act on behalf of the veterinarian.</u>	237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247

(2) A statement containing an assumption of risk by the 248
veterinarian for all acts of the registered veterinary 249
technician related to examining the covered animal and 250
dispensing and administering, in accordance with the care 251
coordination agreement, vaccines or antiparasitic medication, 252
except that the assumption of risk by the veterinarian does not 253
apply to willful acts of animal cruelty, gross negligence, or 254
gross unprofessional conduct on behalf of the registered 255
veterinary technician. 256

(F) Before a registered veterinary technician examines or 257
dispenses or administers, in accordance with a care coordination 258
agreement, any vaccines or antiparasitic medication to a covered 259
animal in accordance with this section, the client shall be 260
informed orally or in writing that the registered veterinary 261
technician is acting on behalf of a licensed veterinarian. The 262
client also shall be provided with the veterinarian's name and 263
license number. The registered veterinary technician or a person 264
authorized by the supervising veterinarian shall obtain 265
permission from the client for the registered veterinary 266
technician to proceed with examining the covered animal and 267
dispensing or administering, in accordance with a care 268
coordination agreement, any vaccine or medication after such 269
disclosure. The registered veterinary technician or a person 270
authorized by the supervising veterinarian shall document in the 271
covered animal's medical record the oral or written 272
authorization of the client to proceed with the registered 273
veterinary technician's examination of the animal and 274
dispensation or administration, in accordance with the care 275
coordination agreement, of the specified vaccine or medication. 276

(G) Documentation relating to the satisfaction of the 277
conditions listed in divisions (E) and (F) of this section shall 278

be retained by the veterinarian for a minimum of three years. 279

Section 2. That existing section 4741.19 of the Revised 280
Code is hereby repealed. 281