

As Introduced

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H. B. No. 664

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Representatives Fischer, Deeter

To amend section 4741.19 of the Revised Code to
establish procedures that allow a registered
veterinary technician to establish a
veterinarian-client-patient relationship on
behalf of a veterinarian to administer vaccines
and antiparasitic medication to a dog or cat.

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

Section 1. That section 4741.19 of the Revised Code be
amended to read as follows:

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

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(B) No veterinary student shall:

(1) Perform or assist surgery unless under direct
veterinary supervision and unless the student has had the

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minimum education and experience prescribed by rule of the board;	21 22
(2) Engage in any other work related to the practice of veterinary medicine unless under veterinary supervision;	23 24
(3) Participate in the operation of a branch office, clinic, or allied establishment unless a licensed veterinarian is present on the establishment premises.	25 26 27
(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.	28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41
(1) A registered veterinary technician operating under veterinary supervision may perform the following duties:	42 43
(a) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients, instruments, equipment, and medications for surgery;	44 45
(b) Collect or supervise the collection of specimens and perform laboratory procedures as required by the supervising veterinarian;	46 47 48
(c) Apply wound dressings, casts, or splints as required	49

by the supervising veterinarian;	50
(d) Assist a veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic, medical, and surgical procedures;	51 52
(e) Suture skin incisions;	53
(f) Administer or supervise the administration of topical, oral, or parenteral medication under the direction of the supervising veterinarian;	54 55 56
(g) <u>Administer a vaccine, including a rabies vaccine, to a</u> <u>covered animal in accordance with division (G) of this section;</u>	57 58
(h) Other ancillary veterinary technician functions that are performed pursuant to the order and control and under the full responsibility of a licensed veterinarian.	59 60 61
(h)(i) Any additional duties as established by the board in rule.	62 63
(2) A registered veterinary technician operating under direct veterinary supervision may perform all of the following:	64 65
(a) Induce and monitor general anesthesia according to medically recognized and appropriate methods;	66 67
(b) Dental prophylaxis, periodontal care, and extraction not involving sectioning of teeth or resection of bone or both of these;	68 69 70
(c) Equine dental procedures, including the floating of molars, premolars, and canine teeth; removal of deciduous teeth; and the extraction of first premolars or wolf teeth.	71 72 73
The degree of supervision by a licensed veterinarian over the functions performed by the registered veterinary technician shall be consistent with the standards of generally accepted	74 75 76

veterinary medical practices. 77

(3) The board shall issue a registration to be a 78
veterinary technician in accordance with Chapter 4796. of the 79
Revised Code to an applicant if either of the following applies: 80

(a) The applicant holds a similar registration or license 81
in another state. 82

(b) The applicant has satisfactory work experience, a 83
government certification, or a private certification as 84
described in that chapter as a veterinary technician in a state 85
that does not issue that registration or license. 86

~~(D)~~ (1) A veterinarian licensed to practice in this 87
state shall not present the person's self as or state a claim 88
that the person is a specialist unless the veterinarian has 89
previously met the requirements for certification by a specialty 90
organization recognized by the American board of veterinary 91
specialties for a specialty or such other requirements set by 92
rule of the board and has paid the fee required by division (A) 93
(10) of section 4741.17 of the Revised Code. 94

The board shall issue a certification as a veterinary 95
specialist in accordance with Chapter 4796. of the Revised Code 96
to an applicant if the applicant holds a certification as a 97
specialist in another state or has satisfactory work experience, 98
a government certification, or a private certification as 99
described in that chapter as a veterinary specialist in a state 100
that does not issue that certification. 101

(2) No person shall use the title "registered veterinary 102
technician" or the title "veterinary technician," the 103
abbreviation "R.V.T.," or any other words, letters, or symbols, 104
with the intent to represent that the person is authorized to 105

act as a registered veterinary technician, unless that person is 106
registered with the board as required by this section and such 107
registration is not suspended or revoked. 108

(E) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, any 109
animal owner or the owner's designee may engage in the practice 110
of embryo transfer on the owner's animal if a licensed 111
veterinarian directly supervises the owner or the owner's 112
designee and the means used to perform the embryo transfer are 113
nonsurgical. 114

(F) Allied medical support may assist a licensed 115
veterinarian to the extent to which the law that governs the 116
individual providing the support permits, if all of the 117
following apply: 118

(1) A valid ~~veterinary-client-patient-relationship~~ 119
veterinary-client-patient relationship exists. 120

(2) The individual acts under direct veterinary 121
supervision. 122

(3) The allied medical support individual receives 123
informed, written, client consent. 124

(4) The veterinarian maintains responsibility for the 125
patient and keeps the patient's medical records. 126

The board may inspect the facilities of an allied medical 127
support individual in connection with an investigation based on 128
a complaint received in accordance with section 4741.26 of the 129
Revised Code involving that individual. 130

(G) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the 131
contrary, a licensed veterinarian may, consistent with any 132
federal law requirements or restrictions and subject to the 133

<u>conditions described in division (G) of this section, authorize</u>	134
<u>a registered veterinary technician to establish a veterinarian-</u>	135
<u>client-patient relationship on behalf of the veterinarian for</u>	136
<u>either or both of the following purposes:</u>	137
<u>(a) To allow the registered veterinary technician to</u>	138
<u>administer vaccines, including the rabies vaccine, to a covered</u>	139
<u>animal;</u>	140
<u>(b) To allow the registered veterinary technician to</u>	141
<u>administer antiparasitic medication to a covered animal.</u>	142
<u>(2) A registered veterinary technician administering such</u>	143
<u>vaccines or antiparasitic medications under division (G) (1) of</u>	144
<u>this section is subject to veterinary supervision, and the</u>	145
<u>requirement for such supervision may be met by a veterinarian</u>	146
<u>who is readily available to communicate with the registered</u>	147
<u>veterinary technician via telephonic means.</u>	148
<u>(3) Prior to authorizing a registered veterinary</u>	149
<u>technician to establish a veterinarian-client-patient</u>	150
<u>relationship on behalf of a veterinarian as authorized under</u>	151
<u>division (G) (1) of this section, the veterinarian shall</u>	152
<u>establish a written protocol describing the duties the</u>	153
<u>registered veterinary technician must perform prior to and</u>	154
<u>during the administration of any vaccine or antiparasitic</u>	155
<u>medication. The protocol shall include provisions regarding each</u>	156
<u>of the following:</u>	157
<u>(a) Obtaining from the covered animal's owner or caretaker</u>	158
<u>the animal's available medical history;</u>	159
<u>(b) Requirements for examination of the covered animal</u>	160
<u>prior to administration of a vaccine or antiparasitic</u>	161
<u>medication;</u>	162

<u>(c) Criteria, including any information in the covered animal's history or physical examination, that would disqualify the covered animal from receiving a vaccine or antiparasitic medication;</u>	163 164 165 166
<u>(d) Vaccination protocols for each covered animal species for which vaccines are administered that include, at a minimum, handling and administration of vaccines and what to do in the event of an adverse reaction or other emergency;</u>	167 168 169 170
<u>(e) Protocols for parasite treatment and control for each covered animal species for which antiparasitic medications are being administered, which shall include, at a minimum, handling and administration of medications and what to do in the event of an adverse reaction or other emergency;</u>	171 172 173 174 175
<u>(f) Documentation of all the following information:</u>	176
<u>(i) The name or initials of the registered veterinary technician who establishes a veterinarian-client-patient relationship on behalf of the veterinarian;</u>	177 178 179
<u>(ii) The name, address, and telephone number of the client;</u>	180 181
<u>(iii) The name or identity of the covered animal;</u>	182
<u>(iv) The age, sex, breed, species, and color of the covered animal;</u>	183 184
<u>(v) The medical history information as it pertains to each covered animal;</u>	185 186
<u>(vi) Any physical examination findings;</u>	187
<u>(vii) Any assessment completed before administering a vaccine or other medication;</u>	188 189

<u>(viii) Client consent for recommended vaccines or antiparasitic medications;</u>	190 191
<u>(ix) All medications and treatments, including strength, dosage, and route of administration;</u>	192 193
<u>(x) Record of relevant client communication, including whether an evaluation by a veterinarian or follow-up care was recommended.</u>	194 195 196
<u>(4) If a veterinarian authorizes a registered veterinary technician to establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship on behalf of the veterinarian, the veterinarian and the registered veterinary technician shall sign and date both of the following:</u>	197 198 199 200 201
<u>(a) A statement containing the authorization for the registered veterinary technician to act on behalf of the veterinarian and to establish the veterinarian-client-patient relationship for the limited purposes of administering vaccines and antiparasitic medication, when acting in compliance with the protocols, conditions, and procedures specified in division (G) of this section. 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>	202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211
<u>(b) A statement containing an assumption of risk by the veterinarian for all acts of the registered veterinary technician related to examining the covered animal and administering vaccines or antiparasitic medication, except that the assumption of risk by the veterinarian does not apply to willful acts of animal cruelty, gross negligence, or gross unprofessional conduct on behalf of the registered veterinary</u>	212 213 214 215 216 217 218

technician. 219

(5) Before a registered veterinary technician examines or 220
administers any vaccines or antiparasitic medication to a 221
covered animal as authorized by division (G) of this section, 222
the client shall be informed orally or in writing that the 223
registered veterinary technician is acting on behalf of a 224
licensed veterinarian. The client also shall be provided with 225
the veterinarian's name and license number. The registered 226
veterinary technician or a person authorized by the supervising 227
veterinarian shall obtain permission from the client for the 228
registered veterinary technician to proceed with examining the 229
covered animal and administering any vaccine or medication after 230
such disclosure. The registered veterinary technician or a 231
person authorized by the supervising veterinarian shall document 232
in the covered animal's medical record the oral or written 233
authorization of the client to proceed with the registered 234
veterinary technician's examination of the animal and 235
administration of the specified vaccine or medication. 236

(6) Documentation relating to the satisfaction of the 237
conditions listed in divisions (G) (4) and (5) of this section 238
shall be retained by the veterinarian for a minimum of three 239
years. 240

(H) As used in this section: 241

(1) "Covered animal" means a dog or a cat. 242

(2) "Dog" means any member of the species *Canis* 243
familiaris. 244

(3) "Cat" means any member of the species *Felis catus.* 245

(4) "Antiparasitic medication" means medication 246
administered to a covered animal for the purpose of controlling 247

apparent or anticipated internal or external parasites. 248

Section 2. That existing section 4741.19 of the Revised
Code is hereby repealed. 249
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