

As Introduced

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H. B. No. 664

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.

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.

(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 21
board; 22

(2) Engage in any other work related to the practice of 23
veterinary medicine unless under veterinary supervision; 24

(3) Participate in the operation of a branch office, 25
clinic, or allied establishment unless a licensed veterinarian 26
is present on the establishment premises. 27

(C) No person shall act as a registered veterinary 28
technician unless the person is registered with the board on a 29
biennial basis and pays the biennial registration fee. A 30
registered veterinary technician registration expires biennially 31
on the first day of March in the odd-numbered years and may be 32
renewed in accordance with the standard renewal procedures 33
contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code upon payment of 34
the biennial registration fee and fulfillment of ten continuing 35
education hours during the two years immediately preceding 36
renewal for registration. Each registered veterinary technician 37
shall notify in writing the executive director of the board of 38
any change in the registered veterinary technician's office 39
address or employment within ninety days after the change has 40
taken place. 41

(1) A registered veterinary technician operating under 42
veterinary supervision may perform the following duties: 43

(a) Prepare or supervise the preparation of patients, 44
instruments, equipment, and medications for surgery; 45

(b) Collect or supervise the collection of specimens and 46
perform laboratory procedures as required by the supervising 47
veterinarian; 48

(c) Apply wound dressings, casts, or splints as required 49

by the supervising veterinarian; 50

(d) Assist a veterinarian in immunologic, diagnostic, 51
medical, and surgical procedures; 52

(e) Suture skin incisions; 53

(f) Administer or supervise the administration of topical, 54
oral, or parenteral medication under the direction of the 55
supervising veterinarian; 56

(g) Administer a vaccine, including a rabies vaccine, to a 57
covered animal in accordance with division (G) of this section; 58

(h) Other ancillary veterinary technician functions that 59
are performed pursuant to the order and control and under the 60
full responsibility of a licensed veterinarian. 61

~~(h)~~ (i) Any additional duties as established by the board 62
in rule. 63

(2) A registered veterinary technician operating under 64
direct veterinary supervision may perform all of the following: 65

(a) Induce and monitor general anesthesia according to 66
medically recognized and appropriate methods; 67

(b) Dental prophylaxis, periodontal care, and extraction 68
not involving sectioning of teeth or resection of bone or both 69
of these; 70

(c) Equine dental procedures, including the floating of 71
molars, premolars, and canine teeth; removal of deciduous teeth; 72
and the extraction of first premolars or wolf teeth. 73

The degree of supervision by a licensed veterinarian over 74
the functions performed by the registered veterinary technician 75
shall be consistent with the standards of generally accepted 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)~~ (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

conditions described in division (G) of this section, authorize 134
a registered veterinary technician to establish a veterinarian- 135
client-patient relationship on behalf of the veterinarian for 136
either or both of the following purposes: 137

(a) To allow the registered veterinary technician to 138
administer vaccines, including the rabies vaccine, to a covered 139
animal; 140

(b) To allow the registered veterinary technician to 141
administer antiparasitic medication to a covered animal. 142

(2) A registered veterinary technician administering such 143
vaccines or antiparasitic medications under division (G)(1) of 144
this section is subject to veterinary supervision, and the 145
requirement for such supervision may be met by a veterinarian 146
who is readily available to communicate with the registered 147
veterinary technician via telephonic means. 148

(3) Prior to authorizing a registered veterinary 149
technician to establish a veterinarian-client-patient 150
relationship on behalf of a veterinarian as authorized under 151
division (G)(1) of this section, the veterinarian shall 152
establish a written protocol describing the duties the 153
registered veterinary technician must perform prior to and 154
during the administration of any vaccine or antiparasitic 155
medication. The protocol shall include provisions regarding each 156
of the following: 157

(a) Obtaining from the covered animal's owner or caretaker 158
the animal's available medical history; 159

(b) Requirements for examination of the covered animal 160
prior to administration of a vaccine or antiparasitic 161
medication; 162

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

<u>(viii) Client consent for recommended vaccines or</u>	190
<u>antiparasitic medications;</u>	191
<u>(ix) All medications and treatments, including strength,</u>	192
<u>dosage, and route of administration;</u>	193
<u>(x) Record of relevant client communication, including</u>	194
<u>whether an evaluation by a veterinarian or follow-up care was</u>	195
<u>recommended.</u>	196
<u>(4) If a veterinarian authorizes a registered veterinary</u>	197
<u>technician to establish a veterinarian-client-patient</u>	198
<u>relationship on behalf of the veterinarian, the veterinarian and</u>	199
<u>the registered veterinary technician shall sign and date both of</u>	200
<u>the following:</u>	201
<u>(a) A statement containing the authorization for the</u>	202
<u>registered veterinary technician to act on behalf of the</u>	203
<u>veterinarian and to establish the veterinarian-client-patient</u>	204
<u>relationship for the limited purposes of administering vaccines</u>	205
<u>and antiparasitic medication, when acting in compliance with the</u>	206
<u>protocols, conditions, and procedures specified in division (G)</u>	207
<u>of this section. The authorization remains in effect until the</u>	208
<u>date the veterinarian terminates the authorization for the</u>	209
<u>registered veterinary technician to act on behalf of the</u>	210
<u>veterinarian.</u>	211
<u>(b) A statement containing an assumption of risk by the</u>	212
<u>veterinarian for all acts of the registered veterinary</u>	213
<u>technician related to examining the covered animal and</u>	214
<u>administering vaccines or antiparasitic medication, except that</u>	215
<u>the assumption of risk by the veterinarian does not apply to</u>	216
<u>willful acts of animal cruelty, gross negligence, or gross</u>	217
<u>unprofessional conduct on behalf of the registered veterinary</u>	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 249
Code is hereby repealed. 250