

**As Introduced**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2015-2016**

**H. B. No. 187**

**Representative Ginter**

**Cosponsors: Representatives LaTourette, Blessing, Schaffer, Vitale,  
Lepore-Hagan, Ruhl, Becker, Hambley**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 4741.20 and 4765.01 and to enact  
section 4765.52 of the Revised Code to authorize  
a first responder, emergency medical technician-  
basic, emergency medical technician-  
intermediate, emergency medical technician-  
paramedic, or volunteer firefighter to stabilize  
an injured animal in an emergency.

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4741.20 and 4765.01 be amended  
and section 4765.52 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as  
follows:

**Sec. 4741.20.** This chapter does not apply to:

(A) A person who administers to animals, the title to  
which is vested in the person's self, except when the title is  
so vested for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of  
this chapter. No person shall vest title of an animal in the  
person's self for the purposes of circumventing this chapter.

(B) A person who is a regular student in a legally

chartered college of veterinary medicine or a veterinary 18  
technology college while in the performance of those duties and 19  
actions assigned by the person's instructors; 20

(C) A person who is a member of the armed forces of the 21  
United States or an employee of the United States department of 22  
agriculture, the United States public health service, or other 23  
federal agency, or the Ohio department of agriculture except a 24  
licensed veterinarian, and who, while so commissioned or 25  
employed, performs official duties; 26

(D) A person who advises with respect to or performs acts 27  
which the state veterinary medical licensing board by rule has 28  
prescribed as accepted management practices in connection with 29  
livestock production; 30

(E) A person who conducts routine vaccinations, pullorum 31  
testing, and typhoid testing of poultry and other poultry 32  
disease control activity under supervision of a national poultry 33  
improvement plan as administered by an official state agency or 34  
the United States department of agriculture; 35

(F) A physician licensed to practice medicine in this 36  
state, or the assistant of such a licensed physician, while 37  
engaged in medical research; 38

(G) A person who is supervised by a licensed veterinarian 39  
and who is engaged in bona fide medical biomedical research 40  
which requires the application of the principles of a veterinary 41  
practice; 42

(H) A veterinary consultant when consulting with a 43  
licensed veterinarian, on the condition that the service 44  
performed by the veterinary consultant is limited to the 45  
consultation and under all circumstances, the responsibility for 46

the care and treatment of the patient remains with the 47  
veterinarian who holds a current license in this state and who 48  
is providing treatment, or consultation as to treatment, to the 49  
patient; 50

(I) A person who offers gratuitous services in the case of 51  
an emergency; 52

(J) Any of the following, as defined in section 4765.01 of 53  
the Revised Code, who provides emergency care in accordance with 54  
section 4765.52 of the Revised Code: a first responder, 55  
emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical 56  
technician-intermediate, emergency medical technician-paramedic, 57  
or volunteer firefighter. 58

**Sec. 4765.01.** As used in this chapter: 59

(A) "First responder" means an individual who holds a 60  
current, valid certificate issued under section 4765.30 of the 61  
Revised Code to practice as a first responder. 62

(B) "Emergency medical technician-basic" or "EMT-basic" 63  
means an individual who holds a current, valid certificate 64  
issued under section 4765.30 of the Revised Code to practice as 65  
an emergency medical technician-basic. 66

(C) "Emergency medical technician-intermediate" or "EMT-I" 67  
means an individual who holds a current, valid certificate 68  
issued under section 4765.30 of the Revised Code to practice as 69  
an emergency medical technician-intermediate. 70

(D) "Emergency medical technician-paramedic" or 71  
"paramedic" means an individual who holds a current, valid 72  
certificate issued under section 4765.30 of the Revised Code to 73  
practice as an emergency medical technician-paramedic. 74

(E) "Ambulance" means any motor vehicle that is used, or 75  
is intended to be used, for the purpose of responding to 76  
emergency medical situations, transporting emergency patients, 77  
and administering emergency medical service to patients before, 78  
during, or after transportation. 79

(F) "Cardiac monitoring" means a procedure used for the 80  
purpose of observing and documenting the rate and rhythm of a 81  
patient's heart by attaching electrical leads from an 82  
electrocardiograph monitor to certain points on the patient's 83  
body surface. 84

(G) "Emergency medical service" means any of the services 85  
described in sections 4765.35, 4765.37, 4765.38, and 4765.39 of 86  
the Revised Code that are performed by first responders, 87  
emergency medical technicians-basic, emergency medical 88  
technicians-intermediate, and paramedics. "Emergency medical 89  
service" includes such services performed before or during any 90  
transport of a patient, including transports between hospitals 91  
and transports to and from helicopters. 92

(H) "Emergency medical service organization" means a 93  
public or private organization using first responders, EMTs- 94  
basic, EMTs-I, or paramedics, or a combination of first 95  
responders, EMTs-basic, EMTs-I, and paramedics, to provide 96  
emergency medical services. 97

(I) "Physician" means an individual who holds a current, 98  
valid certificate issued under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code 99  
authorizing the practice of medicine and surgery or osteopathic 100  
medicine and surgery. 101

(J) "Registered nurse" means an individual who holds a 102  
current, valid license issued under Chapter 4723. of the Revised 103

Code authorizing the practice of nursing as a registered nurse.	104
(K) "Volunteer" means a person who provides services either for no compensation or for compensation that does not exceed the actual expenses incurred in providing the services or in training to provide the services.	105 106 107 108
(L) "Emergency medical service personnel" means first responders, emergency medical service technicians-basic, emergency medical service technicians-intermediate, emergency medical service technicians-paramedic, and persons who provide medical direction to such persons.	109 110 111 112 113
(M) "Hospital" has the same meaning as in section 3727.01 of the Revised Code.	114 115
(N) "Trauma" or "traumatic injury" means severe damage to or destruction of tissue that satisfies both of the following conditions:	116 117 118
(1) It creates a significant risk of any of the following:	119
(a) Loss of life;	120
(b) Loss of a limb;	121
(c) Significant, permanent disfigurement;	122
(d) Significant, permanent disability.	123
(2) It is caused by any of the following:	124
(a) Blunt or penetrating injury;	125
(b) Exposure to electromagnetic, chemical, or radioactive energy;	126 127
(c) Drowning, suffocation, or strangulation;	128
(d) A deficit or excess of heat.	129

(O) "Trauma victim" or "trauma patient" means a person who 130  
has sustained a traumatic injury. 131

(P) "Trauma care" means the assessment, diagnosis, 132  
transportation, treatment, or rehabilitation of a trauma victim 133  
by emergency medical service personnel or by a physician, nurse, 134  
physician assistant, respiratory therapist, physical therapist, 135  
chiropractor, occupational therapist, speech-language 136  
pathologist, audiologist, or psychologist licensed to practice 137  
as such in this state or another jurisdiction. 138

(Q) "Trauma center" means all of the following: 139

(1) Any hospital that is verified by the American college 140  
of surgeons as an adult or pediatric trauma center; 141

(2) Any hospital that is operating as an adult or 142  
pediatric trauma center under provisional status pursuant to 143  
section 3727.101 of the Revised Code; 144

(3) Until December 31, 2004, any hospital in this state 145  
that is designated by the director of health as a level II 146  
pediatric trauma center under section 3727.081 of the Revised 147  
Code; 148

(4) Any hospital in another state that is licensed or 149  
designated under the laws of that state as capable of providing 150  
specialized trauma care appropriate to the medical needs of the 151  
trauma patient. 152

(R) "Pediatric" means involving a patient who is less than 153  
sixteen years of age. 154

(S) "Adult" means involving a patient who is not a 155  
pediatric patient. 156

(T) "Geriatric" means involving a patient who is at least 157

seventy years old or exhibits significant anatomical or 158  
physiological characteristics associated with advanced aging. 159

(U) "Air medical organization" means an organization that 160  
provides emergency medical services, or transports emergency 161  
victims, by means of fixed or rotary wing aircraft. 162

(V) "Emergency care" and "emergency facility" have the 163  
same meanings as in section 3727.01 of the Revised Code. 164

(W) "Stabilize," except as it is used in division (B) of 165  
section 4765.35 of the Revised Code with respect to the manual 166  
stabilization of fractures or as it is used in section 4765.52 167  
of the Revised Code with respect to the stabilization of an 168  
animal, has the same meaning as in section 1753.28 of the 169  
Revised Code. 170

(X) "Transfer" has the same meaning as in section 1753.28 171  
of the Revised Code. 172

(Y) "Firefighter" means any member of a fire department as 173  
defined in section 742.01 of the Revised Code. 174

(Z) "Volunteer firefighter" has the same meaning as in 175  
section 146.01 of the Revised Code. 176

(AA) "Part-time paid firefighter" means a person who 177  
provides firefighting services on less than a full-time basis, 178  
is routinely scheduled to be present on site at a fire station 179  
or other designated location for purposes of responding to a 180  
fire or other emergency, and receives more than nominal 181  
compensation for the provision of firefighting services. 182

(BB) "Physician assistant" means an individual who holds a 183  
valid certificate to practice as a physician assistant issued 184  
under Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code. 185

Sec. 4765.52. In the course of performing an emergency 186  
medical service or trauma care, a first responder, emergency 187  
medical technician-basic, emergency medical technician- 188  
intermediate, emergency medical technician-paramedic, or 189  
volunteer firefighter may take action to stabilize an injured 190  
animal prior to the animal being transferred to a veterinarian 191  
for further treatment. Except for the administration of oxygen 192  
by mask, the first responder, emergency medical technician, or 193  
volunteer firefighter shall not administer a drug to the animal 194  
without first consulting with a veterinarian licensed under 195  
Chapter 4741. of the Revised Code. 196

**Section 2.** That existing sections 4741.20 and 4765.01 of 197  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 198