

House Bill 800 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, McCall of the 33<sup>rd</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Ballinger of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Meadows of the 5<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-50-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 definitions relative to veterinarians and veterinary technicians, so as to clarify the scope of  
3 the veterinarian-client-patient relationship; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Code Section 43-50-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions  
8 relative to veterinarians and veterinary technicians, is amended by revising paragraph (15)  
9 as follows:

10 "(15) 'Veterinarian-client-patient relationship' means that:

11 (A) The licensed veterinarian ~~or his or her licensed designee~~ has assumed the  
12 responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the  
13 need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or caretaker) has agreed to follow the  
14 instruction of the licensed veterinarian;

15 (B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the licensed veterinarian to initiate  
16 at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This  
17 means that the licensed veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with  
18 the keeping and care of the animal by the virtue of examination of the animal or by  
19 medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept or by  
20 medically appropriate and timely visits by the licensed veterinarian to premises within  
21 an operation or production system where the animal or groups of animals are kept; and

22 (C) A licensed veterinarian is readily available for follow up in the case of adverse  
23 reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy."

24 SECTION 2.

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.