16 LC 40 1016

House Bill 800

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

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- To amend Code Section 43-50-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to 1
- 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.

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:

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- 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
- at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This 16
- means that the licensed veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with 17
- the keeping and care of the animal by the virtue of examination of the animal or by 18
- medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept or by 19
- 20 medically appropriate and timely visits by the licensed veterinarian to premises within
- 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
- reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy." 23

24 **SECTION 2.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed. 25