

House Bill 1195 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Leverett of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, Mathiak of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Gullett of the 19<sup>th</sup>, Camp of the 135<sup>th</sup>, and Cooper of the 45<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 7 of Chapter 50 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to telemedicine by veterinarians and veterinary technicians, so as to revise provisions  
3 relating to veterinary telemedicine, teleadvice, and teletriage and the veterinary-client-patient  
4 relationship; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 7 of Chapter 50 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
9 telemedicine by veterinarians and veterinary technicians, is amended in Code  
10 Section 43-50-121, relating to practice of veterinary teletriage and veterinary telemedicine  
11 regardless of whether a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists, by revising  
12 subsection (a) as follows:

13 "(a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this chapter, a licensed veterinarian or a  
14 veterinary technician supervised by a licensed veterinarian may practice veterinary  
15 teletriage, regardless of whether a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists, if the  
16 following conditions are met:

H. B. 1195

17 ~~(1) No licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician is available within a 50 mile radius~~  
 18 ~~of the animal's location to perform a physical examination at a veterinary facility or the~~  
 19 ~~premises where the animal is located within 24 hours of the client's request for services;~~  
 20 ~~(2)~~(1) The licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician requests that, as soon as  
 21 reasonably practical, the client present the animal patient for a physical examination at  
 22 the veterinary facility or at the premises where such animal is located; and  
 23 ~~(3)~~(2) The licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician informs the client, in writing,  
 24 of the veterinarian or supervising veterinarian's full name, location, license number,  
 25 licensure status, and limitations involved in accessing veterinary teletriage, and obtains  
 26 a signed and dated statement from the client indicating receipt of such required  
 27 information."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 43-50-122, relating to providing  
 30 veterinary teleadvice regardless of whether a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists,  
 31 as follows:

32 "43-50-122.

33 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to:

- 34 (1) Prohibit ~~prohibit~~ a licensed veterinarian or a veterinary technician supervised by a  
 35 licensed veterinarian from providing veterinary teleadvice, regardless of whether a  
 36 veterinary-client-patient relationship exists; or  
 37 (2) Require a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship in order to provide veterinary  
 38 teleadvice or veterinary teletriage."

39 **SECTION 3.**

40 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
 41 without such approval.

42

**SECTION 4.**

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