

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 648

Short Title: Emer. Care/Animals/Vet. Practice. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Sasser.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 26, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN EXEMPTION TO THE PRACTICE OF VETERINARY  
MEDICINE FOR EMERGENCY PERSONNEL WHO RENDER EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES TO AN INJURED K-9 POLICE ANIMAL AT THE SCENE OF AN  
EMERGENCY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 90-187.10 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 90-187.10. Necessity for license; certain practices exempted.**

No individual shall engage in the practice of veterinary medicine without having a veterinary license from the Board. No person, as defined in G.S. 90-181(5), may own a veterinary facility without having a veterinary facility permit from the Board.

Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prohibit:

...

(12) Any emergency medical services personnel, as defined in G.S. 131E-155, who may provide emergency medical transport or emergency medical services to an injured K-9 police unit animal at the scene of an emergency."

**SECTION 1.(b)** Article 7 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

**"§ 131E-155.2. Emergency medical treatment for K-9 unit; limited immunity.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, emergency medical services personnel shall not be prosecuted for providing emergency medical transport or emergency medical services to an injured K-9 police unit animal if the emergency medical services personnel acted in good faith when providing emergency medical transport or emergency medical services to an injured K-9 police unit animal at the scene of an emergency. The immunity established by this section does not extend to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing that would otherwise be actionable."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2021, and applies to acts on or after that date.

