

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H1/25/21 S3/29/21

2 93rd General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2021

HOUSE BILL 1152

4

5 By: Representatives Gazaway, D. Ferguson, Ladyman, Fortner

6 By: Senators D. Wallace, Irvin

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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE GABO'S LAW; TO ALLOW FOR EMERGENCY
10 MEDICAL CARE TO BE PROVIDED TO INJURED POLICE DOGS;
11 TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO CREATE GABO'S LAW; TO ALLOW FOR
16 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE TO BE PROVIDED TO
17 INJURED POLICE DOGS; AND TO PROVIDE
18 IMMUNITY.

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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-101-307(b), concerning exemptions to
24 licensure by the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, is amended to add an
25 additional subdivision to read as follows:

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(13) An emergency medical services personnel or an emergency
27 medical services provider from transporting an injured police dog as
28 authorized under § 20-13-216.

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SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-13-202, concerning the definitions of
31 the Emergency Medical Services Act, is amended to add additional subdivisions
32 to read as follows:

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(11) "Emergency medical services provider" means an entity or
34 individual licensed to provide emergency medical services, including without
35 limitation an ambulance service provider; and

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(12) "Police dog" means a dog owned or used by a law enforcement



1 or correctional agency in the course of the law enforcement or correctional
2 agency's work, including without limitation a search and rescue dog, service
3 dog, accelerant detection dog, or other dog in use by a law enforcement
4 agency.

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6 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 13, Subchapter 2, is
7 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

8 20-13-216. Gabo's Law – Police dogs – Injured on duty.

9 (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as "Gabo's Law".

10 (b)(1) An emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical
11 services provider may transport a police dog injured in the course of a law
12 enforcement or correctional agency's work to a veterinary hospital or clinic
13 if there is not a person requiring immediate medical attention or transport
14 at the time.

15 (2) During transport to the veterinary hospital or clinic, an
16 emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical services
17 provider may provide emergency medical care to the police dog, including
18 without limitation:

19 (A) Opening and manually maintaining an airway;

20 (B) Giving mouth-to-snout or mouth-to-barrier ventilation;

21 (C) Administering oxygen;

22 (D) Managing ventilation by mask;

23 (E) Controlling hemorrhage with direct pressure;

24 (F) Immobilizing fractures;

25 (G) Bandaging;

26 (H) Administering naloxone hydrochloride, if administering
27 naloxone hydrochloride has been authorized in accordance with a written
28 protocol established and provided by a veterinarian or in consultation with a
29 veterinarian; or

30 (I) Providing euthanasia.

31 (c) An emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical
32 services provider who, in the course of his or her duties, provides emergency
33 medical care or transportation to an injured police dog under this section is
34 not liable:

35 (1) For expenses related to providing emergency medical care to
36 the police dog or for the transport of the police dog to a veterinary

1 hospital or clinic;

2 (2) Civilly or criminally for emergency medical care provided to
3 the police dog by emergency medical services personnel or an emergency
4 medical services provider, including without limitation all causes of action
5 lying in tort or contract and any causes of action for damages arising from
6 the emergency medical care provided to the police dog; or

7 (3) For expenses charged by the veterinary hospital or clinic
8 for emergency medical care or subsequent associated medical care provided to
9 the police dog.

10 (d) An emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical
11 services provider may request that a member of the law enforcement or
12 correctional agency who owns or uses the police dog accompany the injured
13 police dog during transport.

14 (e) If a police dog is injured in the line of duty and requires
15 emergency transport or emergency medical care as a result of a criminal act
16 or episode of an individual, a court of competent jurisdiction may order a
17 defendant whose actions were the proximate cause of the injuries to the
18 police dog that resulted in emergency transport or emergency medical care to
19 pay restitution to a person or entity entitled to payment or reimbursement
20 for the expenses related to the emergency transport or emergency medical care
21 of the police dog.

22 (f) If an individual needs emergency transport or emergency medical
23 care, the individual shall be transported and provided emergency medical care
24 before transporting or providing emergency medical care is provided to the
25 injured police dog.

26 (g) This section does not require the emergency transport of a police
27 dog or prohibit a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or other
28 person from providing emergency transport of a police dog.

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30 */s/Gazaway*

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33 **APPROVED: 4/20/21**