

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-166

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2020

A Bill

JMB/JMB
HOUSE BILL

4 By: Representatives Gazaway, D. Ferguson
5 By: Senator D. Wallace

6 Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council
7 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE FOR
10 INJURED POLICE DOGS; TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.

12 **Subtitle**

13 TO PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE FOR
14 INJURED POLICE DOGS; AND TO PROVIDE
15 IMMUNITY.

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

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

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

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

26 (11) "Emergency medical services provider" means an entity that
27 is licensed to provide emergency medical services, including without
28 limitation an ambulance service provider; and

1 (12) "Police dog" means a dog owned or used by a law enforcement
2 agency in the course of the law enforcement agency's work, including a search
3 and rescue dog, service dog, accelerant detection dog, or other dog in use by
4 a law enforcement 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. Police dogs – Injured on duty.

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

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

17 (A) Opening and manually maintaining an airway;

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

19 (C) Administering oxygen;

20 (D) Managing ventilation by mask;

21 (E) Controlling hemorrhage with direct pressure;

22 (F) Immobilizing fractures;

23 (G) Bandaging;

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

28 (I) Providing euthanasia.

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

33 (1) For expenses related to providing emergency medical care to
34 the police dog or for the transport of the police dog to a veterinary
35 hospital or clinic;

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

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

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

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15 Referred by Representative Gazaway

16 Prepared by: JMB/JMB

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