

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-166

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

**A Bill**

JMB/JMB  
HOUSE BILL

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

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

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

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

**Subtitle**

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

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

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

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

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

(11) "Emergency medical services provider" means an entity that  
is licensed to provide emergency medical services, including without  
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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