

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1152

5 By: Representatives Gazaway, D. Ferguson, Ladyman  
6 By: Senators D. Wallace, Irvin  
7

## 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

15 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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23 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:

26 (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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30 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:

33 (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

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



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

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

7 20-13-216. Gabo's Law – Police dogs – Injured on duty.

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

9 (b)(1) An emergency medical services personnel or an emergency medical  
10 services provider may transport a police dog injured in the course of a 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 (c) 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;

36 (2) Civilly or criminally for emergency medical care provided to

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

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

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

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

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

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

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