



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

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### H.B. 187

131st General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps.** Ginter, LaTourette, Blessing, Schaffer, Vitale, Lepore-Hagan, Ruhl, Becker, Hambley

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes a first responder, emergency medical technician, or volunteer firefighter to take action to stabilize an injured animal in an emergency.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Authority to stabilize an injured animal

The bill authorizes a first responder, emergency medical technician (EMT), or volunteer firefighter, in the course of performing an emergency medical service or providing trauma care, to take action to stabilize an injured animal before the animal is transferred to a veterinarian for further treatment.<sup>1</sup> The bill does not define "stabilize" for the purposes of providing emergency care to an injured animal.

Current law does not appear to address the provision of emergency services or trauma care to an animal by a first responder, EMT, or volunteer firefighter.

### Administering drugs

The bill prohibits a first responder, EMT, or volunteer firefighter from administering a drug to an injured animal without first consulting with a licensed veterinarian. However, oxygen may be administered by mask without consultation.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4765.52.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4765.52.

## Practice of veterinary medicine

The bill specifies that a first responder, EMT, or volunteer firefighter who provides emergency care in accordance with the bill is not subject to the laws governing the practice of veterinary medicine.<sup>3</sup>

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### HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-05-15

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4741.20.

