



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 190**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN FOREIGN-EDUCATED  
VETERINARIANS TO PRACTICE UNDER A TEMPORARY PERMIT  
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VETERINARIAN-CLIENT-PATIENT  
RELATIONSHIP THROUGH THE USE OF TELEHEALTH FOR THE  
TREATMENT OF URGENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 (a) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-198, the  
4 Department of Public Health may issue a license by endorsement to any  
5 veterinarian of good professional character who is currently licensed  
6 and practicing in some other state or territory, having requirements for  
7 admission determined by the department to be at least equal to the  
8 requirements of this state, upon the payment of a fee of five hundred  
9 sixty-five dollars to said department. Notwithstanding the provisions of  
10 section 20-198, the department may, upon payment of a fee of five  
11 hundred sixty-five dollars, issue a license without examination to a  
12 currently practicing, competent veterinarian in another state or territory  
13 who [(1)] (A) holds a current valid license in good professional standing  
14 issued after examination by another state or territory that maintains  
15 licensing standards which, except for examination, are commensurate  
16 with this state's standards, and [(2)] (B) has worked continuously as a

17 licensed veterinarian in an academic or clinical setting in another state  
18 or territory for a period of not less than five years immediately  
19 preceding the application for licensure without examination. No license  
20 shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom  
21 professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an  
22 unresolved complaint. The department shall inform the board annually  
23 of the number of applications it receives for licensure under this section.

24 [(b)] (2) The Department of Public Health may issue a temporary  
25 permit under this subsection to an applicant for licensure without  
26 examination upon receipt of a completed application form,  
27 accompanied by the fee for licensure without examination, a copy of a  
28 current license from another state of the United States, the District of  
29 Columbia or a commonwealth or territory subject to the laws of the  
30 United States, and a notarized affidavit attesting that the license is valid  
31 and belongs to the person requesting notarization. Such temporary  
32 permit shall be valid for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty  
33 calendar days and shall not be renewable. The department shall not  
34 issue a temporary permit under this section to any applicant against  
35 whom professional disciplinary action is pending, or who is the subject  
36 of an unresolved complaint.

37 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-198, the Department  
38 of Public Health may issue a temporary permit to an applicant who (1)  
39 is a graduate from a school located outside of the United States, its  
40 territories or Canada with a degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, or  
41 its equivalent, from a program acceptable to the American Veterinary  
42 Medical Association as required to receive certification by the  
43 Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, (2) is  
44 working toward receiving certification from the Educational  
45 Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates or Program for the  
46 Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence, and (3) has passed the  
47 written, oral and practical examinations required under section 20-199.  
48 Such temporary permit shall authorize the holder to practice veterinary  
49 medicine only under the direct supervision of a veterinarian who has  
50 been licensed under chapter 384 for not less than four years. Such

51 temporary permit shall be valid for a period not to exceed two years  
52 after the date of issuance, except such temporary permit shall be  
53 renewable once for a period of two years if the applicant fails to receive  
54 certification from the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary  
55 Graduates or Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education  
56 Equivalence within the first two-year period. No fee shall be required  
57 for the issuance or renewal of a temporary permit under this section. As  
58 used in this subsection, "direct supervision" means the licensed  
59 veterinarian is present in the office where the temporary permit holder  
60 is performing such holder's duties and immediately available to furnish  
61 assistance and direction to such holder throughout the performance of  
62 such duties.

63 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 20-197 of the general statutes is  
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
65 *1, 2026*):

66 (c) [A] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a  
67 veterinarian-client-patient relationship may not be established solely  
68 through veterinary telemedicine. After a veterinarian-client-patient  
69 relationship has been established, such relationship may be maintained  
70 through veterinary telemedicine in between medically necessary  
71 examinations of the animal by the veterinarian or timely medical visits  
72 by the veterinarian to the location where the animal is kept. If there is  
73 no veterinarian-client-patient relationship, a veterinarian may only  
74 provide general advice using electronic means and shall not provide any  
75 specific advice regarding the animal, including, but not limited to, any  
76 diagnosis or recommended medical care or treatment of the animal. As  
77 used in this subsection, "veterinary telemedicine" means the exchange  
78 of medical information regarding the status of an animal's health or the  
79 delivery of a medical diagnosis, care or treatment of an animal through  
80 electronic means, including, but not limited to, telephone, video, mobile  
81 applications or an Internet web site-based platform.

82 (2) A veterinarian-client-patient relationship may be established  
83 through veterinary telemedicine only when (A) a veterinarian

84 determines that the animal is in urgent need of medical care or treatment  
85 that will take a maximum of fourteen days for the veterinarian to  
86 administer to the animal, and (B) the client schedules an in-person  
87 examination of the animal by the veterinarian to occur not later than  
88 fourteen days after the initial veterinary telemedicine visit. The  
89 veterinarian-client-patient relationship established under this  
90 subdivision shall not continue after such fourteen-day period ends  
91 unless the veterinarian examines the animal in person within such  
92 fourteen-day period.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-200
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-197(c)

**PH**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*