

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 949 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY STACK, BROWNE, TEPLITZ, FARNESE, FERLO AND COSTA,
MAY 29, 2013

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
MAY 29, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 27, 1974 (P.L.995, No.326),
2 entitled "An act regulating the practice of veterinary
3 medicine and imposing penalties," further providing for
4 definitions.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 3(15) of the act of December 27, 1974
8 (P.L.995, No.326), known as the Veterinary Medicine Practice
9 Act, amended December 9, 2002 (P.L.1370, No.167), is amended and
10 the section is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

11 Section 3. Definitions.--As used in this act:

12 * * *

13 (15) "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means a
14 relationship satisfying all of the following conditions: (i) the
15 veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making
16 veterinary medical judgments regarding the health of an animal
17 and the need for veterinary medical treatment, and the client,
18 owner or caretaker of the animal has agreed to follow the

1 instructions of the veterinarian; (ii) the veterinarian has
2 sufficient knowledge of the animal to initiate at least a
3 general, preliminary or tentative diagnosis of the medical
4 condition of the animal; (iii) the veterinarian is acquainted
5 with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an
6 examination of the animal or medically appropriate and timely
7 visits to the premises where the animal is kept; (iv) the
8 veterinarian is available for consultation in cases of adverse
9 reactions to or failure of the regimen of therapy; (v) the
10 veterinarian maintains records on the animal examined in
11 accordance with regulations established by the board; and (vi)
12 the veterinarian provides a client information sheet to the
13 owner of the animal in cases of dispensing prescription drugs
14 that will be administered by the owner in an outpatient setting.

15 (16) "Client information sheet" means a paper required by
16 the Center for Veterinary Medicine of the Food and Drug
17 Administration for the purpose of communicating important risk
18 information to clients and that is given to a veterinarian by a
19 prescription drug manufacturer so that owners of an animal are
20 provided with vital product safety information including
21 precautions, contraindications, signs of a possible adverse
22 reaction and steps to take in the event of an adverse reaction
23 to the prescription drug.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.