

MICHELE GUYTON  
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Environment and Transportation  
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

April 2, 2024

**HB 1097 – Favorable**

**State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners – Veterinary Technicians and Veterinary Assistants**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee,

I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 1097 that clarifies the duties of registered veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants in Maryland code.

As in so many other fields, there are shortages in the veterinary workforce. However, registered veterinary technicians are underutilized and advanced training is disincentivized due to a lack of clarity and consistency regarding their duties.

This bill will codify the duties that registered veterinary technicians and assistants can perform in Maryland and is based on recommendations and model legislation from American Veterinary Medical Association in partnership with Association of Veterinary State Boards. HB1097 defines levels of veterinary supervision necessary for different procedures.

The AVMA recognizes the importance on leveraging skills and engagement of registered veterinary technicians. This legislation will be one of the first steps to ensure that this happens in Maryland.

This bill supports our state economy by keeping better paying jobs in Maryland and helps our animals and their caregivers by allowing veterinarians to utilize registered veterinary technicians more efficiently and improve access to care.

Please support HB1097.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton