

**First Regular Session
Sixty-sixth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 07-0020.01 Duane Gall

HOUSE BILL 07-1126

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McGihon,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

Health and Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO PERFORM**
102 **PHYSICAL THERAPY ON ANIMALS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)

Allows licensed physical therapists to treat animals when such treatment is consistent with the scope of physical therapy practice. Specifies that such practice shall not be deemed the practice of veterinary medicine. Requires the director of the division of registrations, in consultation with the physical therapy advisory committee and the board of veterinary medicine, to adopt rules governing the practice of physical therapy on animals.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 12-41-103 (6) (a) (I), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
3 amended to read:

4 **12-41-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 (6) (a) (I) "Physical therapy" means the examination, treatment,
7 or instruction of ~~human beings~~ PATIENTS AND CLIENTS to detect, assess,
8 prevent, correct, alleviate, or limit physical disability, movement
9 dysfunction, bodily malfunction, or pain from injury, disease, and other
10 bodily conditions.

11 **SECTION 2.** 12-41-113, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
12 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

13 **12-41-113. Special practice authorities and requirements.**

14 (4) **Physical therapy of animals.** A PHYSICAL THERAPIST IS
15 AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM PHYSICAL THERAPY OF ANIMALS WHEN SUCH
16 PHYSICAL THERAPY OF ANIMALS IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SCOPE OF
17 PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE. THE PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
18 OF ANIMALS SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO VIOLATE THE PROHIBITION
19 AGAINST PRACTICING VETERINARY MEDICINE CONTAINED IN SECTION
20 12-64-104.

21 **SECTION 3.** 12-41-125 (2) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
22 amended to read:

23 **12-41-125. Powers and duties of director - reports -**
24 **publications.** (2) In addition to any other powers and duties given the
25 director by this article, the director shall have the following powers and
26 duties:

1 (b) To adopt all reasonable and necessary rules and regulations for
2 the administration and enforcement of this article, including, but not
3 limited to, rules regarding:

4 (I) The supervision of unlicensed persons by physical therapists
5 taking into account the education and training of such unlicensed
6 individuals; AND

7 (II) PHYSICAL THERAPY OF ANIMALS. IN ADOPTING RULES
8 REGARDING PHYSICAL THERAPY OF ANIMALS, THE DIRECTOR SHALL
9 CONSULT WITH THE PHYSICAL THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
10 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-41-126 AND WITH THE BOARD OF
11 VETERINARY MEDICINE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-64-105.

12 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act shall take effect July 1,
13 2007.

14 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
15 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.