

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
CHAPTER 700-12, MINIMUM STANDARDS, RULE 700-12-.04, RECORD KEEPING,
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to Rule Chapter 700-12, Minimum Standards, Rule 700-12-.04, Record Keeping, (hereinafter "proposed rule amendment").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being disseminated to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board website <http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/53>, or by contacting the Board office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on August 17, 2016, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on August 10, 2016. Written comments should be addressed to Lisa W. Durden, Director, Office of Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217; Fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at its meeting scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on August 17, 2016 at the Georgia Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt proposed rule amendment to 700-12-.04 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21 and 43-50-41.

At its meeting October 21, 2015, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21 and 43-50-41.

Additionally, at its meeting October 21, 2015, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21 and 43-50-41 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of veterinary medicine.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 16 day of June, 2016.



Lisa W. Durden
Director
Professional Licensing Boards

Posted:

16 JUNE 16

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, MINIMUM STANDARDS,
RULE 700-12-.04, RECORD KEEPING.**

Purpose: To further identify the party responsible for maintaining patient records.

Main Features: The rule will further clarify the actions that must be taken as it relates to patient records when a veterinarian retires or sells the veterinary practice.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, MINIMUM STANDARDS , RULE 700-12-.04, RECORD
KEEPING.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.04 Record Keeping

(1) Complete, accurate and legible records must be maintained on all animals, or animal groups, including but not limited to, animal owner information, animal identification, and veterinary care (hereinafter referred to as “patient records”).

(a) All patient records must be maintained for a minimum of 3 years (including diagnostic imaging and other patient data) by the veterinarian who provided treatment to the patient or by the veterinary facility where the patient received treatment.

(b) The requirements of subparagraph (a) shall not apply to a veterinarian who has retired or sold his or her professional practice if said veterinarian has notified the client of such retirement or sale and offered to provide the patient records or copies thereof to another veterinarian of the client’s choice or~~veterinarian must~~ furnished the clients with an established mailing address ~~for~~ to submit a request for obtaining ~~medical~~patient records.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-41.

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Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-41.