

House Bill 892

By: Representatives Kirby of the 114th, McCall of the 33rd, England of the 116th, Caldwell of the 20th, Kelley of the 16th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to medical and other confidential information, so as to repeal a provision relating to
3 disclosure of veterinary records; to amend Code Section 4-11-17 of the Official Code of
4 Georgia Annotated, relating to veterinary reporting of animal cruelty, so as to correct a
5 cross-reference; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 medical and other confidential information, is amended by repealing Code Section 24-12-31,
11 relating to confidential nature of veterinarian records.

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Code Section 4-11-17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to veterinary
14 reporting of animal cruelty, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

15 "(a) Notwithstanding ~~Code Section 24-12-31 or any other~~ any provision of law to the
16 contrary, any licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician having reasonable cause to
17 believe that an animal has been subjected to animal cruelty in violation of Code Section
18 16-12-4 or an act prohibited under Code Section 16-12-37 may make or cause to be made
19 a report of such violation to the Commissioner, his or her designee, an animal control
20 officer, a law enforcement agency, or a prosecuting attorney and may appear and testify in
21 any judicial or administrative proceeding concerning the care of an animal."

22 **SECTION 3.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.