

SENATE BILL NO. 21

BY SENATOR WHEAT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:34.8(B)(3) and 40.9(B)(3), relative to assault and battery; to  
3 add veterinarians and veterinary clinics to the definitions of "healthcare professional"  
4 and "healthcare facility" for purposes of battery of emergency room personnel,  
5 emergency services personnel, or a healthcare professional and unlawful disruption  
6 of the operation of a healthcare facility; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 14:34.8(B)(3) and 40.9(B)(3) are hereby amended and reenacted to  
9 read as follows:

10 §34.8. Battery of emergency room personnel, emergency services personnel, or a  
11 healthcare professional

12 \* \* \*

13 B. For purposes of this Section:

14 \* \* \*

15 (3) "Healthcare professional" means a person licensed or certified by this  
16 state to provide healthcare or professional services as a physician, physician  
17 assistant, dentist, registered or licensed practical nurse or certified nurse assistant,  
18 advanced practice registered nurse, certified emergency medical technician,  
19 paramedic, certified registered nurse anesthetist, nurse practitioner, respiratory  
20 therapist, clinical nurse specialist, pharmacist, optometrist, podiatrist, chiropractor,  
21 physical therapist, occupational therapist, licensed radiologic technologist, licensed  
22 clinical laboratory scientist, licensed professional counselor, certified social worker,  
23 psychologist, patient transporter, dietary worker, patient access representative,  
24 security personnel, patient relations advocate, **veterinarian, veterinary staff**, or any  
25 other person who otherwise assists in or supports the performance of healthcare  
26 services.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_