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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 135 would clarify that only a person licensed by or registered with the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board (Board) as a registered veterinary technician may hold himself or herself out as a "registered veterinary technician," "veterinary technician," or use the abbreviation "R.V.T." or any other words, letters, or symbols intended to convey that the person is a registered veterinary technician.*

**CURRENT LAW:**

G.S. 90-181(11) defines a "veterinary technician" to mean either of the following:

- a. A person who has successfully completed a post-high school course in the care and treatment of animals that conforms to the standards required for accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.
- b. A person who holds a degree in veterinary medicine from a college of veterinary medicine recognized by the Board for licensure of veterinarians and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.

G.S. 90-187.12 makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to violate any provisions of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act (Article 11 of Chapter 90).

**BILL ANALYSIS:**

**Section 1** would provide that no person may use the title "registered veterinary technician," "veterinary technician," or use the abbreviation "R.V.T." or any other words, letters, or symbols with the intent to represent that the person is authorized to act as a registered veterinary technician unless the person is, in fact, licensed by or registered with the Board as a registered veterinary technician.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective December 1, 2023, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

*Jeffrey Hudson*  
Director



*Legislative Analysis*  
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