

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

# HOUSE BILL NO. 442

## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES HOSKINS (Sponsor), BRATTIN, DAVIS,  
LICHTENEGGER AND JONES (50) (Co-sponsors).

0993L.01P

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 209.200, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to professional therapy dogs.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 209.200, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 209.200, to read as follows:

209.200. As used in sections 209.200 to 209.204, the following terms shall mean:

- 2 (1) "Disability", as defined in section 213.010;
- 3 (2) "Service dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to do work or perform  
4 tasks which benefit a particular person with a disability. Service dog includes:
  - 5 (a) "Guide dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a particular  
6 blind or visually impaired person;
  - 7 (b) "Hearing dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a particular  
8 deaf or hearing-impaired person;
  - 9 (c) "Medical alert or [respond] **response dog**", a dog that is being or has been trained to  
10 alert a person with a disability that a particular medical event is about to occur or to respond to  
11 a medical event that has occurred;
  - 12 (d) "Mobility dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a person  
13 with a disability caused by physical impairments;
  - 14 (e) "**Professional therapy dog**", a dog which is selected, trained, and tested to  
15 **provide specific physical therapeutic functions, under the direction and control of a**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 **qualified handler who works with the dog as a team as a part of the handler's occupation**  
17 **or profession. Such dogs, with their handlers, perform such functions in institutional**  
18 **settings, community-based group settings, or when providing services to specific persons**  
19 **who have disabilities. Professional therapy dogs do not include dogs, certified or not,**  
20 **which are used by volunteers in visitation therapy.**

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