

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 834

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SOMMER.

1986H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To repeal sections 209.150, 209.152, and 209.200, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to service dogs.

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

Section A. Sections 209.150, 209.152, and 209.200, RSMo, are repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 209.150, 209.152, and 209.200, to read as follows:

209.150. 1. Every person with a visual, aural or [physical] **other** disability, **as defined in section 213.010**, shall have the same rights afforded to a person with no such disability to the full and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings, public facilities, and other public places.

2. Every person with a visual, aural or [physical] **other** disability, **as defined in section 213.010**, is entitled to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, taxis, streetcars, boats or any other public conveyances or modes of transportation, hotels, lodging places, places of public accommodation, amusement or resort, and other places to which the general public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons.

3. Every person with a visual, aural or [physical] **other** disability, **as defined in section 213.010**, shall have the right to be accompanied by a guide dog, hearing dog, or service dog, **as defined in section 209.200**, which is especially trained for the purpose, in any of the places listed in subsection 2 of this section without being required to pay an extra charge for the guide

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 dog, hearing dog or service dog; provided that such person shall be liable for any damage done  
17 to the premises or facilities by such dog.

18 4. As used in sections 209.150 to 209.190, the term "service dog" [means any dog  
19 specifically trained to assist a person with a physical disability by performing necessary physical  
20 tasks which the person cannot perform. Such tasks shall include, but not be limited to, pulling  
21 a wheelchair, retrieving items, and carrying supplies] **shall be defined as in section 209.200.**

209.152. Any trainer, from a recognized training center, of a guide dog, hearing  
2 assistance dog or service dog, **as defined in section 209.200**, shall have the right to be  
3 accompanied by such dog in or upon any of the premises listed in section 209.150 while engaged  
4 in the training of the dog without being required to pay an extra charge for such dog. Such  
5 trainer shall be liable for any damage done to the premise of facilities by such dog.

209.200. As used in sections [209.200] **209.150** to 209.204, the following terms shall  
2 mean:

3 (1) "Disability", as defined in section 213.010;

4 (2) "Service dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to do work or perform  
5 tasks which benefit a particular person with a disability.

6 Service dog includes:

7 (a) **“Emotional support animal”, an animal that provides therapeutic benefit to its**  
8 **owner through companionship and affection, but that is not specifically trained to**  
9 **ameliorate disability;**

10 (b) "Guide dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a particular  
11 blind or visually impaired person;

12 [(b)] (c) "Hearing dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a  
13 particular deaf or hearing-impaired person;

14 [(c)] (d) "Medical alert or [respond] **response** dog", a dog that is being or has been  
15 trained to alert a person with a disability that a particular medical event is about to occur or to  
16 respond to a medical event that has occurred;

17 [(d)] (e) "Mobility dog", a dog that is being or has been specially trained to assist a  
18 person with a disability caused by physical impairments;

19 (f) **“Psychiatric service dog”, a dog individually trained to do work or perform tasks**  
20 **that mitigate the difficulties of its owner with a psychiatric disability, including but not**  
21 **limited to picking up or retrieving objects, aiding with mobility, alerting or responding to**  
22 **episodes such as panic attacks and anxiety, and performing other tasks directly related to**  
23 **the owner’s specific psychiatric disability. Psychiatric disability includes but is not limited**  
24 **to major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD),**  
25 **autism, anxiety disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, and schizophrenia;**

26           **(g) “Professional therapy dog”, a dog that is selected, trained, and tested to provide**  
27 **specific physical therapeutic functions, under the direction and control of a qualified**  
28 **handler who works with the dog as a team as a part of the handler’s occupation or**  
29 **profession. Such dogs, with their handlers, perform such functions in institutional settings,**  
30 **community-based group settings, or when providing services to specific persons who have**  
31 **disabilities. Professional therapy dogs do not include dogs, certified or not, that are used**  
32 **by volunteers in visitation therapy;**

33           **(h) “Search and rescue dog”, a dog that is being or has been trained to search for**  
34 **or prevent a person with a mental disability, including but not limited to verbal and**  
35 **nonverbal autism, from becoming lost;**

36           **(3) “Service team dog”, a trained service dog that is part of a team consisting of a**  
37 **disabled person and an adult who has been trained to handle the service dog.**

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