

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 555

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblyman JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Assemblywoman JOAN M. VOSS

District 38 (Bergen)

Assemblyman NELSON T. ALBANO

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Moriarty, Cohen, Egan, Barnes, Wisniewski, Prieto, Conners, Conaway, Assemblywoman Truitt, Assemblymen Diegnan, Burzichelli, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblymen Epps, Giblin and Assemblywoman Lampitt

SYNOPSIS

Allows access to housing, public facilities and transportation for certain working dogs, provides penalties for violation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on January 30, 2006, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/10/2006)

1 AN ACT concerning access to housing, public facilities and
2 transportation for certain working dogs and supplementing Title
3 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. As used in this act:

9 “Housing accommodation” means the same as the term is
10 defined in subsection u. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5);

11 “Public ¹**[facilities]** facility¹” means the same as the term is
12 defined in subsection v. ¹of section 5¹ of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-
13 5); and

14 “Working dog” means any dog trained for the purpose of human
15 search and rescue, body recovery, arson detection, bomb detection,
16 narcotics detection, criminal apprehension, police assistance or
17 other related purposes, whether in the performance of such tasks or
18 while ¹**[off-duty]** traveling to or from such tasks¹.

19
20 2. Any member of a police, fire, law enforcement or other
21 related emergency service agency, accompanied by a working dog,
22 trained by a recognized training agency or school, is entitled, with
23 the dog, to full and equal access to all public facilities and modes of
24 public transportation, subject only to the following conditions:

25 a. A member of a police, fire, law enforcement or other related
26 emergency service agency, if accompanied by a working dog, shall
27 keep the dog in immediate custody at all times;

28 b. A member of a police, fire, law enforcement or other related
29 emergency service agency, accompanied by a working dog, shall
30 not be charged an extra fee or payment ¹for the dog¹ for admission
31 to, or use of, any public facility; ¹and¹

32 c. A member of a police, fire, law enforcement or other related
33 emergency service agency, who has possession of a working dog,
34 shall be liable for any damages done to the premises of a public
35 facility by the dog.

36
37 3. A member of a police, fire, law enforcement or other related
38 emergency service agency who possesses a working dog, is entitled
39 to rent, lease or purchase, as other members of the general public,
40 all housing accommodations and business accommodations offered
41 for rent, lease, or compensation in this State, subject to the rights,
42 conditions and limitations established by law. A member of a
43 police, fire, law enforcement or other related emergency service

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted January 30, 2006.

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1 agency who possesses a working dog, or who obtains a working
2 dog, shall be entitled to full and equal access to all housing
3 accommodations and business accommodations and shall not be
4 required to pay extra compensation for the dog, but shall be liable
5 for any damages done to the premises by the dog. Any provision in
6 any lease or rental agreement prohibiting maintenance of a pet or
7 pets on or in the premise shall not be applicable to a working dog
8 owned by a tenant who is a member of a police, fire ¹, law
9 enforcement¹ or other related emergency service agency.

10

11 4. Any person who violates a provision of this act ¹~~【commits a~~
12 ~~disorderly persons offense, and】~~¹ shall be subject to ¹~~【a sentence of~~
13 ~~six months' imprisonment, some or all of which may be community~~
14 ~~service, restitution, and】~~¹ a ¹~~【\$1,000】~~¹ fine ¹~~of between \$100 and~~
15 ~~\$500~~¹.

16

17 5. This act shall take effect immediately.