
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1995 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY MURT, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, DEAN, DRISCOLL,
W. KELLER, D. MILLER, RABB, RAPP, READSHAW, STEPHENS, THOMAS
AND WARD, JANUARY 3, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
JANUARY 3, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in domestic animals, providing for therapy dogs.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Chapter 23 of Title 3 of the Pennsylvania
6 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

7 SUBCHAPTER F.1

8 THERAPY DOGS

9 Sec.

10 2370. Public transportation.

11 § 2370. Public transportation.

12 (a) General rule.--A public transportation authority may
13 not:

14 (1) Deny, limit, discourage or attempt to impose burdens
15 or penalties on an individual with a disability who is
16 accompanied by a therapy dog that is properly harnessed for
17 the purposes of aiding and guiding the individual and riding

1 on a vehicle operated for public transportation.

2 (2) Deny or limit a therapy dog that is properly
3 harnessed and accompanying an individual with a disability,
4 an owner or handler of a therapy dog or an individual
5 licensed to train therapy dogs from aiding and guiding an
6 individual with a disability or from riding on a vehicle
7 operated for public transportation.

8 (3) Charge a fee for the transportation of a therapy
9 dog.

10 (b) Rules and regulations.--The department shall promulgate
11 rules and regulations necessary to implement this subchapter.

12 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
13 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
14 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Public transportation authority." The term shall have the
16 same meaning as "authority" as defined in 74 Pa.C.S. § 1701
17 (relating to definitions).

18 "Recognized therapy dog training organization." An
19 organization which certifies or registers therapy dogs and
20 therapy dog handlers.

21 "Therapy dog." A dog that is trained to work or perform
22 specific tasks for the benefit of individuals, including those
23 with special needs, autism, drug addiction, distress due to
24 emotional and physical abuse and clinical depression or bipolar
25 disorder by a recognized therapy dog training organization and
26 is used for that purpose.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.