

HCS HB 1428 -- SERVICE DOGS (Sommer)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Emerging Issues

This bill revises the term "service dog" to include a psychiatric service dog or mental health service dog that is trained to do work or perform tasks for an owner with a psychiatric disability, medical condition, or developmental disability recognized in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Currently, any individual who knowingly or intentionally fails to maintain control of his or her animal to prevent it from chasing or harassing a working service dog and temporarily interferes with the service dog's ability to carry out its function is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. The bill requires any person who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly causes substantial injury to or the death of a service dog, or the owner of an animal that causes substantial physical injury to or the death of a service dog to be ordered to fully compensate the service dog's owner for the injury, loss, or replacement of the service dog.

This bill is similar to HB 787 (2015) and HB 1428 (2016).