

CHAPTER 141—H.F.No. 1024

An act relating to human rights; regulating access to public accommodation by certain persons and guide dogs; amending Minnesota Statutes 1986, sections 256C.02; and 363.03, subdivision 10.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 256C.02, is amended to read:

256C.02 PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.

The blind, the visually handicapped, and the otherwise physically disabled have the same right as the able-bodied to the full and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings, public facilities, and other public places; and are entitled to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, 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.

Every totally or partially blind, physically handicapped, or deaf person shall have the right to be accompanied by a guide service dog in any of the places listed in section 363.03, subdivision 10. The person shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by such dog. The service dog must be capable of being properly identified as from a recognized school for seeing eye, hearing ear, service, or guide dogs.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 363.03, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **DISCRIMINATION AGAINST BLIND, HANDICAPPED, OR DEAF PERSONS PROHIBITED.** (a) It is an unfair discriminatory practice for an owner, operator or manager of a hotel, restaurant, public conveyance or other public place, to prohibit a blind, physically handicapped, or deaf person from taking a guide service dog into the public place or conveyance if the guide service dog can be properly identified as being from a recognized school for seeing eye, hearing ear, service, or guide dogs, and if the dog is properly harnessed or leashed so that the blind, physically handicapped, or deaf person may maintain control of the dog.

(b) No person shall require a blind, physically handicapped, or deaf person to make an extra payment or pay an additional charge when taking a guide service dog into any of the public places referred to in paragraph (a).

Approved May 14, 1987

Changes or additions are indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.