

HOUSE BILL No. 4521

April 28, 2015, Introduced by Reps. Barrett, Heise, Moss, Kelly, Hughes, Chatfield, Rutledge, Tedder, Lucido, Sheppard, LaVoy, Hooker, Outman, Bumstead, Faris, Talabi, Chang, Glenn and Cole and referred to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs.

A bill to provide for the issuance of identification, tags, and vests for service animals; and to provide for certain powers and duties of the department of civil rights.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Person with a disability" means a person who satisfies
3 all of the following conditions:

4 (i) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially
5 limits 1 or more major life activities.

6 (ii) Has a history or record of an impairment described in
7 subparagraph (i).

8 (iii) Is perceived by other persons as having an impairment
9 described in subparagraph (i).

10 (b) As used in subdivision (a), "person with a disability"

1 includes a veteran who has been diagnosed with 1 or more of the
2 following:

3 (i) Post-traumatic stress disorder.

4 (ii) Traumatic brain injury.

5 (iii) Other service-related disabilities.

6 (c) "Service animal" means a dog or a miniature horse that has
7 been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the
8 benefit of a person with a disability, including a physical,
9 sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.

10 Sec. 3. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the department shall
11 develop and make available upon request an identification, tag, and
12 vest for a service animal for a person with a disability.

13 (2) To be eligible to receive the identification, tag, and
14 vest described in subsection (1), the person seeking the materials
15 shall provide all of the following:

16 (a) An affidavit signed by the person seeking the
17 identification, tag, and vest attesting that the service animal for
18 which the identification, tag, and vest are being sought has been
19 trained to be a service animal.

20 (b) Documentation from an appropriate health care or
21 rehabilitation professional that the individual requires the
22 assistance of a service animal due to a disability.

23 Sec. 5. The department shall use its existing telephone
24 complaint hotline to receive reports of problems encountered by a
25 person with a disability using a service animal and to receive
26 reports of a person impersonating a person with a disability and
27 using a service animal.

1 Sec. 7. A person who knowingly or willingly submits a false or
2 fraudulent affidavit under section 3(2)(a) is guilty of a
3 misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following:

4 (a) Imprisonment for not more than 90 days.

5 (b) A fine of not more than \$500.00.

6 (c) Community service for not more than 30 days.