

HB 548 -- Rights of Persons With Service Animals

Sponsor: Fraser

This bill defines "service animal" as an animal specially trained to do work or perform tasks which benefit a person with a disability. Any person who causes the physical injury or death or fails to control their animal which causes the physical injury or death of a service animal is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Any person who harasses a service animal or fails to control their animal which harasses a service animal preventing the animal from performing its duties is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. Civil damages may be recovered by the service animal owner or the person with a disability who uses the service animal.

Anyone who impersonates a person with a disability by representing himself or herself as disabled or represents his or her animal as a service animal is guilty of a class B misdemeanor and liable for any actual damages resulting from the impersonation.