

HB 2324 -- Access to Service Dogs in Educational Institutions

Sponsor: Newman

This bill prohibits any public or private educational institution from discriminating against an individual with a service dog or a service dog team because a disabled individual has a service dog or team. Any individual with a service dog or team must have continued access to his or her service dog at all public and private educational institutions in this state including the service dog and the adult trained to handle the dog who is a member of the individual's service dog team regardless of the presence or absence of the disabled individual.

No educational institution can refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, practices, or services when the accommodation may be necessary to afford an individual with a service dog or team equal opportunity to use and enjoy the educational institution.

An educational institution may require proof that an individual has a disability or physical or mental impairment, that an adult is trained to handle a service dog, and that a dog is trained or is being trained as a service dog. However, the institution cannot ask the nature of the disability or impairment but only whether or not the individual is impaired or the adult is trained in handling service dogs.

Any rules of an educational institution that limit or restrict a dog's size or access to areas of the institution available to persons without disabilities cannot apply to service dogs.