

Bill No.: HB0114 **Effective:** 7/1/2017

LSO No.: 17LSO-0365

Enrolled Act No.: HEA No. 0079

Chapter No.: [Chapter Number_RO]

Prime Sponsor: Brown

Catch Title: Service and assistance animals.

Subject: Service and assistance animals.

Summary/Major Elements:

- This bill updates Wyoming Statutes to conform to federal provisions concerning service animals and assistance animals. Previously, state law addressed only service dogs.
- The bill defines "service animal" to include a service dog or service miniature horse, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Presently, "assistance animal" is not defined under federal law. This bill defines "assistance animal" to mean an animal that works, provides assistance or performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, or provides emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability.
- The bill creates a misdemeanor offense for knowingly and intentionally misrepresenting a service or assistance animal.
- The bill clarifies a service animal must be allowed in a place of public accommodation or a public entity's facility in accordance with the ADA.
- The bill provides a person may not be discriminated against in leasing or renting residential property because the person has an assistance animal. The bill provides a person is liable for any damage his assistance animal causes to leased or rented residential property.
- The bill provides a public accommodation, or any agent or employee thereof, that permits a service animal or an animal believed in good faith to be a service animal in its place of public accommodation is not liable for any damage or injury the animal causes.
- The bill criminalizes killing or injuring a service or assistance animal. A person who kills or injures a service or assistance animal must pay to replace the animal, if killed, or retrain the animal, if injured.

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