

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1823

(Filing No. S-390)

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
110TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 765, L.D. 1823, Bill,  
"AN ACT Relating to Guide Dogs for Handicapped Persons."

Amend the Bill in section 1 by striking out all of sub-  
section 4 and inserting in its place the following:

'4. Especially trained guide dog trainer; access to  
public facilities; responsibilities. An especially trained  
guide dog trainer, while engaged in the actual training pro-  
cess and activities of guide dogs, shall have the same  
rights, privileges and responsibilities with respect to ac-  
cess to public facilities as are applicable to a blind,  
visually handicapped or otherwise physically disabled  
person.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting after section 3 the  
following:

'Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3601, sub-§1, 111A-1 and A-2 are  
enacted to read:

A-1. "Deaf person" means a person whose sense of hear-  
ing is nonfunctional for the purpose of ordinary commu-  
nication.

A-2. "Hearing impaired person" means a person whose  
sense of hearing is defective, but still functional,  
with or without amplification.'

Further amend the bill in section 4, in that part des-  
ignated "§3611." by adding at the end the following under-  
lined sentence:

'The provisions of rights, and penalties for denial thereof,  
as specified in this subchapter, are not intended to abro-  
gate any actions or penalties provided for violation of  
human rights, as specified in the Maine Human Rights Act,  
Title 5, chapter 337.'

D. OF R.

1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 765, L.D. 1823

2 Further amend the Bill in section 4, in that part des-  
3 ignated "§3612", in subsection 3, by striking out in the  
4 4th line (page 3, line 7 in L.D.) the underlined word  
5 "harness" and inserting in its place the underlined words  
6 'collar and leash'

7 Further amend the Bill in section 4, in that part des-  
8 ignated "§3612", in subsection 3 by adding at the end the  
9 following underlined sentence:

10 'When the deaf or hearing impaired person is accompanied by  
11 a guide dog, he shall also carry a card, issued by the  
12 Bureau of Rehabilitation, which states that the dog is a  
13 especially trained guide dog, and cites Title 22, sections  
14 3611 and 3612 as allowing for access by the person and his  
15 dog to streets, public places and public conveyances.'

16 Further amend the Bill in section 4, in that part des-  
17 ignated "§3612", by striking out all of subsection 4 and  
18 inserting in its place the following:

19 '4. Especially trained guide dog trainer; access to  
20 public facilities; responsibilities. An especially trained  
21 hearing ear dog trainer, while engaged in the actual train-  
22 ing of hearing ear dogs, shall have the same rights, privi-  
23 leges and responsibilities with respect to access to public  
24 facilities as are applicable to a deaf or hearing impaired  
25 person.'

26 Further amend the Bill in section 4, in that part des-  
27 ignated "§3614", in the first line of the 2nd paragraph  
28 (page 3, line 38 in L.D.) by striking out the underlined  
29 word "harness" and inserting in its place the underlined  
30 words 'collar and leash'

31 Further amend the Bill by renumbering section 4 to be  
32 section 5.

33 STATEMENT OF FACT

34 This amendment adds that the guide dog trainers must be  
35 especially trained guide dog trainers. It also modifies the  
36 term "harness" to be "collar and leash," since hearing ear  
37 dogs do not wear harnesses.

1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 765, L.D. 1823

2 It provides a cross-reference to the Maine Human Rights  
3 Act, and requires the deaf or hearing impaired persons ac-  
4 companied by a guide dog to carry a card to inform others of  
5 their rights to enter public places or conveyances with  
6 their guide dogs.

7 Finally, the amendment adds the definition of "deaf  
8 person" and "hearing impaired person" to the chapter on the  
9 deaf and hearing impaired persons.

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Reported by the Committee on Health and Institutional Services.

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