LB553 LB553

2019 2019

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

# LEGISLATIVE BILL 553

Introduced by Clements, 2.

Read first time January 22, 2019

Committee: Judiciary

1. A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to civil rights; to require reasonable
2. accommodation for a person with a disability to have an assistance
3. animal in a dwelling as prescribed; to define terms; and to provide
4. a written verification process.
5. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

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1. Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section:
2. (a) Assistance animal means an animal that works, provides
3. assistance, or performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a
4. disability or that provides emotional support to such person that
5. alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's 6 disability;
6. (b) Disability means a physical or mental impairment that
7. substantially limits one or more major life activities of a person;
8. (c) Dwelling means any building, structure, or portion thereof which
9. is occupied as or designed or intended for occupancy as a residence for 11 one or more families; and
10. (d) Health service provider means a physician, psychologist, or
11. mental health practitioner licensed to practice in Nebraska under the
12. Uniform Credentialing Act. It does not include a physician, psychologist,
13. or mental health practitioner whose sole service to a resident of this
14. state is to provide written verification, including written verification
15. from an online or Internet source or web site, in exchange for a fee and 18 provides no other service to such resident.
16. (2) Any person who offers to rent or otherwise make available a
17. dwelling to a resident of this state who is a person with a disability
18. whose disability is not readily apparent and who seeks a reasonable
19. accommodation for an assistance animal in such dwelling may require that
20. the person with a disability provide written verification from a health
21. service provider that:
22. (a) He or she is a person with a disability;
23. (b) There is a disability-related need for the assistance animal;
24. and
25. (c) The assistance animal assists the person with a disability in 29 managing his or her disability.

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