

HB 424 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0711

08/11

HOUSE BILL **424**

AN ACT directing the department of agriculture, markets, and food to create forms for businesses to request information about service animals and establishing a committee to study the protection of business owners from requests to accommodate customers with fraudulent or untrained service animals.

SPONSORS: Rep. Stringham, Graf. 3

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

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ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Directs the department of agriculture, markets, and food to create forms for businesses to request information about service animals.

II. Establishes a committee to study the protection of business owners from requests to accommodate customers with fraudulent or untrained service animals.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five*

AN ACT directing the department of agriculture, markets, and food to create forms for businesses to request information about service animals and establishing a committee to study the protection of business owners from requests to accommodate customers with fraudulent or untrained service animals.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 New Section; Service Animal Hospitality Form. Amend RSA 167-D by inserting after section  
2 10 the following new section:

3 167-D:11 Service Animal Hospitality Form. The department of agriculture, markets, and food  
4 shall create forms and make such forms available to lodging or restaurant associations for use,  
5 consistent with federal law, to collect information from patrons presenting animals as service  
6 animals. The form shall contain the following information:

7 I. The date.

8 II. The name of the service animal.

9 III. The name of the service animal's owner.

10 IV. An assertion that the animal is a service animal with the notation: "It is a misdemeanor  
11 under RSA 167-D:8 to misrepresent a animal as a service animal. Companion and comfort animals  
12 are not service animals."

13 V. The state in which the animal is registered.

14 VI. The function the service animal performs to assist the owner.

15 VII. The following notation shall appear at the bottom of the form: "Service animals must  
16 stay in the presence and under control of their owner at all times. A service animal cannot be left  
17 behind in a hotel, restaurant, or cabin without their owner. Not all facilities are appropriate for  
18 service animals. For example, some rooms in hotels or campgrounds are reserved for those with pet  
19 allergies. Every reasonable effort is made to accommodate patrons with service animals."

20 VIII. A place for the owner of the service animal to sign that they have read the form.

21 IX. A place for the name of a person assisting the owner of the service animal in filling out  
22 the form, if applicable.

23 X. The phone number of the owner of the service animal owner.

24 2 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the protection of business  
25 operators against requests to accommodate customers with fraudulent or untrained service dogs.

26 3 Membership and Compensation.

27 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

28 (a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the  
29 house of representatives.

**HB 424 - AS INTRODUCED**  
**- Page 2 -**

1           (b) Three members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

2           II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to  
3 the duties of the committee.

4           4 Duties. The committee shall study the protection of business operators against requests to  
5 accommodate customers with fraudulent or untrained service dogs, review restrictions based upon  
6 federal law and consider solutions, including requesting federal legislation from the New Hampshire  
7 congressional delegation.

8           5 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from  
9 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house  
10 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this  
11 section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

12           6 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed  
13 legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house  
14 clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2025.

15           7 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.