State of Arkansas

91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

By: Senator Rapert
By: Representative D. Meeks

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO CREATE THE PATRICIA HEATH ACT; TO INCLUDE ALL SERVICE DOGS AUTHORIZED FOR ACCOMPANIMENT UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT IN THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SERVICE ANIMAL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
AN ACT TO CREATE THE PATRICIA HEATH ACT; TO INCLUDE ALL SERVICE DOGS AUTHORIZED FOR ACCOMPANIMENT UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT IN THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SERVICE ANIMAL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Title.
This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Patricia Heath Act".

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-14-304(a), concerning the right of an individual with disabilities to be accompanied by a service animal, is amended to read as follows:
(a) Every individual with visual, hearing, or other physical disabilities shall have the right to be accompanied by a service animal especially trained to do work or to perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability in or upon any and all public ways, public
places, and other public accommodations and housing accommodations prescribed
in § 20-14-303 and to be accompanied by a service dog as defined in Titles II
and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as it existed on January 1,
2017, and shall not be required to pay any extra fee or charge for the
service animal.

/s/Rapert

APPROVED: 03/24/2017