

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL

DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: House File 615 (Formerly HF 244)

Committee: Judiciary
Floor Manager: Rep. Nordman
Date: May 21, 2025

Staff: Amanda Wille (1-5230)

House Committee: House Floor: Senate Floor:

Governor:

PASSED on February 24 (21-0) PASSED on March 13 (95-0) PASSED on April 21 (42-3)

Intentional Misrepresentation of Service Animals

 Allows a person to be charged with the misrepresentation of a service animal without having received a warning first.

Section by Section Analysis

<u>Section 1- Rights of Persons with Disabilities- Service Animals and Service-Animals-In-Training - Penalty (216C.11)</u> Under current law three standards must be met before a person can be charged with misrepresenting service animals.

- 1) The person must intentionally misrepresent the animal as a service animal or animal in training for the purpose of gaining some right or privilege.
- 2) The person must have a previous warning before being charged with intentionally misrepresenting a service animal or service-animal-in-training.
- 3) The person must know that the animal is not a service or in-training animal.

The bill removes the last two requirements. A person can now be charged with intentional misrepresentation if they intentionally misrepresent the animal for the purpose of gaining some right or privilege.

The crime remains a simple misdemeanor.

Amendment Analysis