

Mississippi State Law about Service Dogs

(1) Any blind person, mobility impaired person or hearing impaired person who uses a dog specifically trained as a guide, leader, listener or for any other assistance necessary to assist such blind, mobility impaired or hearing impaired person in day-to-day activities shall be entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of all public conveyances, hotels, lodging places, businesses open to the public for the sale of any goods or services and all places of public accommodation, amusement, or resort and other places to which the general public is invited, and may take such dog into such conveyances and places, subject only to the conditions and limitations applicable to all persons not so accompanied, except that:

(a) The dog shall not occupy a seat in any public conveyance.

(b) The dog shall be upon a leash while using the facilities of a common carrier.

(2) Trainers of support dogs shall have the same rights of accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges with support dogs-in-training as those supplied to blind, mobility impaired and hearing impaired persons under this section.

(3) No person shall deprive a blind, mobility impaired, hearing impaired person, or a support dog trainer of any of the advantages, facilities or privileges provided in this section, nor charge such blind, mobility impaired, hearing impaired person or support dog trainer a fee or charge for the use of the dog.

Mississippi Code of 1972, section 43-6-155 (as amended, 1999)

(1) An individual shall not do either of the following:

(a) Willfully and maliciously assault, beat, harass, injure, or attempt to assault, beat, harass or injure, a dog that he or she knows or has reason to believe is a guide or leader dog for a blind individual, a hearing dog for a deaf or audibly impaired individual, or a service dog for a physically limited individual.

(b) Willfully and maliciously ***impede or interfere with, or attempt to impede or interfere with, duties performed by a dog*** that he or she knows or has reason to believe is a guide or leader dog for a blind individual, a hearing dog for a deaf or audibly impaired individual, or a service dog for a physically limited individual.

(2) An individual who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days or a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both.

Mississippi Code of 1972, section 97-41-19