

**As Reported by the House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and
Homeland Security Committee**

132nd General Assembly

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H. B. No. 558

Representative McClain

**Cosponsors: Representatives Becker, West, Brenner, Sheehy, Galonski, Carfagna,
Romanchuk, Riedel, Smith, K., Dean, Wiggam, Johnson, Kick, Craig, Landis,
Miller, Perales, Zeltwanger**

A BILL

To amend section 955.011 of the Revised Code to
exempt certain disabled veterans from paying a
dog registration fee when application is made to
the county auditor that includes proof that the
dog is an assistance dog.

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

Section 1. That section 955.011 of the Revised Code be
amended to read as follows:

Sec. 955.011. (A) When an application is made for
registration of an assistance dog and the owner can show proof
by certificate or other means that the dog is an assistance dog,
the owner of the dog shall be exempt from any fee for the
registration. Registration for an assistance dog shall be
permanent and not subject to annual renewal so long as the dog
is an assistance dog. Certificates and tags stamped "Ohio
Assistance Dog-Permanent Registration," with registration
number, shall be issued upon registration of such a dog. Any

certificate and tag stamped "Ohio Guide Dog-Permanent
Registration" or "Ohio Hearing Dog-Permanent Registration," with
registration number, that was issued for a dog in accordance
with this section as it existed prior to July 4, 1984, any
certificate and tag stamped "Ohio Handicapped Assistance Dog-
Permanent Registration," with registration number, that was
issued for a dog in accordance with this section as it existed
on and after July 5, 1984, but prior to November 26, 2004, and
any certificate and tag stamped "Ohio Service Dog-Permanent
Registration," with registration number, that was issued for a
dog in accordance with this section as it existed on and after
November 26, 2004, but prior to June 30, 2006, shall remain in
effect as valid proof of the registration of the dog on and
after November 26, 2004. Duplicate certificates and tags for a
dog registered in accordance with this section, upon proper
proof of loss, shall be issued and no fee required. Each
duplicate certificate and tag that is issued shall be stamped
"Ohio Assistance Dog-Permanent Registration."

(B) As used in this section and in sections 955.16 and
955.43 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Mobility impaired person" means any person of the
following:

(a) A person, regardless of age, who is subject to a
physiological defect or deficiency regardless of its cause,
nature, or extent that renders the person unable to move about
without the aid of crutches, a wheelchair, or any other form of
support, or that limits the person's functional ability to
ambulate, climb, descend, sit, rise, or perform any related
function. ~~"Mobility impaired person" includes a;~~

(b) A person with a neurological or psychological

disability that limits the person's functional ability to 47
ambulate, climb, descend, sit, rise, or perform any related 48
function. ~~"Mobility impaired person" also includes a;~~ 49

(c) A person with a seizure disorder and a; 50

(d) A person who is diagnosed with autism; and 51

(e) A person who is a veteran of the armed forces of the 52
United States, including reserve components thereof, or of the 53
national guard, who has been discharged or released from active 54
duty in the armed forces under honorable conditions, and who has 55
been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic 56
brain injury, or any other service-related disability. 57

(2) "Blind" means either of the following: 58

(a) Vision twenty/two hundred or less in the better eye 59
with proper correction; 60

(b) Field defect in the better eye with proper correction 61
that contracts the peripheral field so that the diameter of the 62
visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees. 63

(3) "Assistance dog" means a guide dog, hearing dog, or 64
service dog that has been trained by a nonprofit special agency. 65

(4) "Guide dog" means a dog that has been trained or is in 66
training to assist a blind person. 67

(5) "Hearing dog" means a dog that has been trained or is 68
in training to assist a deaf or hearing-impaired person. 69

(6) "Service dog" means a dog that has been trained or is 70
in training to assist a mobility impaired person. 71

Section 2. That existing section 955.011 of the Revised 72
Code is hereby repealed. 73