

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 286

BY SENATOR POPE

HEALTH SERVICES. Creates the offense of misrepresentation of entitlement to assistance animals. (8/1/20)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:1954.1, relative to animals that assist certain persons; to create a

3 prohibition for misrepresenting the entitlement to assistance animals; to provide for

4 definitions; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 46:1954.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§1954.1. Misrepresentation of entitlement to assistance animal; penalties**

8 **A. A person shall be guilty of the offense of misrepresentation of**

9 **entitlement to an assistance animal if he obtains a reasonable accommodation**

10 **in housing accommodations through one or more of the following means:**

11 **(1) Makes a false claim in having a disability that requires the use of an**

12 **assistance animal.**

13 **(2) Provides false supporting documentation in connection with making**

14 **a claim of having a disability that requires the use of an assistance animal.**

15 **(3) Creates or executes a document that misrepresents an animal as an**

16 **assistance animal.**

17 **(4) Provides a document to another falsely stating that an animal is an**

Proposed law further provides that a person shall be guilty of this offense if he makes materially false statements for purposes of obtaining documentation which is meant to entitle him to possess an assistance animal in housing accommodations.

Proposed law provides for definitions.

Proposed law provides that the first offense shall be a fine of not more than \$250 and any subsequent offense shall be a fine of not more than \$500.

Effective August 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 46:1954.1)