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MEMORANDUM

To: House Judiciary Committee
From: Natalie Scott, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 11, 2019
Subject: Bill Brief on HB 2152

HB 2152 enacts the assistance animal integrity act.

It provides that a person with a disability may make a request for a reasonable accommodation to maintain an assistance animal on a landlord's property pursuant to federal law. The landlord may require the person to produce documentation of the disability if the disability is not readily apparent. A person making a request must (1) verify the person meets the definition of disability, (2) describe the need for an assistance animal, and (3) be seen by a doctor or counselor who is familiar with the patient's disability.

If a request is granted, the landlord can require the person making the request produce the documentation on an annual basis if the disability is not readily apparent. The landlord is not liable for damages or injury caused by a person's assistance animal on the landlord's property.

If a person obtains an accommodation under this section through misrepresentation of a disability or misrepresentation of an animal as an assistance animal, the landlord may deem that noncompliance with the rental agreement and proceed with appropriate actions.

The bill also provides for definitions to be used in the section, and amends K.S.A. 39-1103 to provide that interference with the right to an assistance animal is a misdemeanor.