

SENATE, No. 1524

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Clarifies that compensation may be paid for expenses related to service animals required due to injuries resulting from crime against victim.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning victim compensation for expenses related to
2 service animals and amending P.L.1971, c.317.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 12 of P.L.1971, c.317 (C.52:4B-12) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 12. The agency may order the payment of compensation under
10 this act for:

11 a. expenses actually and reasonably incurred as a result of the
12 personal injury or death of the victim, including out-of-pocket
13 losses which shall mean unreimbursed and unreimbursable expenses
14 or indebtedness reasonably incurred for medical care or other
15 services necessary as a result of the injury upon which such
16 application is based~~[,]~~ ;

17 b. loss of earning power as a result of total or partial incapacity
18 of such victim~~[,]~~ ;

19 c. pecuniary loss to the dependents of the deceased victim~~[,]~~ ;
20 and

21 d. any other pecuniary loss resulting from the personal injury
22 or death of the victim which the agency determines to be
23 reasonable.

24 As used in subsection a. of this section, “other services” shall
25 include expenses involved in procuring or providing treatment to a
26 service animal, as defined by the federal “Americans with
27 Disabilities Act of 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.) and any
28 regulations promulgated pursuant to that act, if a service animal is
29 required by the victim based on the injuries sustained as a result of
30 the crime.

31 (cf: P.L.2007, c.95, s.16)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35 STATEMENT

36

37 This bill specifically provides that crime victims may be awarded
38 compensation for those expenses related to procuring or providing
39 treatment to a service animal when a service animal is required by
40 the victim due to injuries sustained by the victim as a result of the
41 crime.

42 Under the bill, a “service animal,” as defined by the federal
43 Americans with Disabilities Act, is any dog that is individually
44 trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual
45 with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric,
46 intellectual, or other mental disability.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.