

ARKANSAS SENATE
90th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2015
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1855

TO BE KNOWN AS "THE COURTHOUSE DOGS CHILD WITNESS SUPPORT ACT".

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1855

Amend House Bill No. 1855 as originally introduced:

Add Senator Hester as lead sponsor of the bill

AND

Page 1, delete lines 29 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(1) "Certified facility dog" means a dog that has:
 (A) Graduated from a program of an assistance dog organization that is a member of Assistance Dogs International or a similar nonprofit organization that attempts to set the highest standard of training for dogs for the purpose of reducing stress in a child witness by enhancing the ability of the child witness to speak in a judicial proceeding by providing emotional comfort in a high stress environment;
 (B) Received two (2) years of training; and
 (C) Passed the same public access test as a service dog;"

AND

Page 2, delete line 1

AND

Page 2, delete lines 25 through 27, and substitute the following:

"(2) That the certified facility dog is adequately insured;
 (3) That a relationship has been established between the child witness and the certified facility dog in anticipation of testimony; and
 (4) That the presence of the certified facility dog may reduce anxiety experienced by the child witness while testifying in the criminal trial or hearing."

AND

Page 3, delete lines 3 through 17, and substitute the following:

"(f) In a criminal trial involving a jury in which the certified facility dog is utilized, the court shall present appropriate jury



instructions that are designed to prevent prejudice for or against any party."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator J. Hutchinson

BPG/BPG - 03-18-2015 16:51:29

BPG579

Secretary