



SPONSOR: Rep. Spiegelman on behalf of all Representatives

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 24

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF SERVICE DOGS AND THERAPY DOGS AND THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO TRAIN AND SUPPORT THEM.

1 WHEREAS, service dogs are individually trained to perform specific tasks and to work with people with
2 disabilities such as vision impairment, physical limitations, and cognitive challenges; and

3 WHEREAS, therapy dogs are trained to work in clinical, school, and home settings where they provide therapeutic
4 comfort and affection to people in stressful environments, children learning to read, socially isolated older adults, people
5 with cognitive or physical challenges, and people with terminal illnesses; and

6 WHEREAS, therapy dogs provide mental health benefits to people by reducing stress and anxiety, reducing
7 feelings of loneliness and isolation, increasing mental stimulation, brightening emotional outlook, and improving self-
8 confidence; and

9 WHEREAS, therapy dogs provide physical health benefits to people by decreasing blood pressure, regulating
10 breathing, releasing beneficial hormones, reducing pain, and encouraging participation in activities; and

11 WHEREAS, organizations like PAWS for People and the Delmarva Region of National Capital Therapy Dogs
12 train dogs and volunteers to provide therapy support in hospitals, classrooms, specialized care facilities, workplaces, and
13 home settings in Delaware; and

14 WHEREAS, PAWS for People partners with the State of Delaware and DEMA to provide volunteers and therapy
15 dogs to support people affected by natural disasters like fires and floods.

16 NOW, THEREFORE:

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware that
18 the House recognizes the public health and societal benefits of service and therapy dogs;

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware supports
20 and thanks service and therapy dogs, volunteers, and organizations like PAWS for People and the Delmarva Region of
21 National Capital Therapy Dogs for the valuable public service that they provide to the State.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitably prepared copies be presented to PAWS for People and the Delmarva
23 Region of National Capital Therapy Dogs.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution recognizes the public health and societal benefits of service dogs and therapy dogs and the people and organizations who train and support them.