



## Changes in ADA and Service Animals

The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment was signed into law and will become effective January 1, 2009.

The changes include a revised definition of a service animal and its protection under the ADA. The new definition is, "The species eligible to be service animals is limited to any dog or common domestic animal."

**Exclusions:** Reptiles; rabbits; rodents; farm animals such as horses, ponies, miniature horses, pigs and goats; monkeys; spiders; and exotic animals. People with disabilities may still use excluded animals in their own home. The exclusions apply to public setting only.

Companion animals that provide emotional comfort are not considered service animals. A service animal must be trained to perform a task.