02/21/18 REVISOR XX/SA 18-6161 as introduced

## SENATE STATE OF MINNESOTA NINETIETH SESSION

A bill for an act

relating to civil actions; specifying immunity from liability for real property owners

required to provide access to assistance animals; proposing coding for new law in

S.F. No. 2680

(SENATE AUTHORS: REST, Eichorn, Utke and Bakk)

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DATE 02/26/2018 D-PG OFFICIAL STATUS

6196 Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy

03/01/2018 6250 Author added Bakk

Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604A. 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: 1.5 Section 1. [604A.302] ASSISTANCE ANIMAL ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY; 1.6 PROPERTY OWNER IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. 1.7 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section. 1.8 (b) "Assistance animal" means an animal that assists, supports, or provides a service to 1.9 a person with a disability. 1.10 (c) "Owner" means the owner of real property or an operator, manager, lessor, or other 1.11 agent of the owner. 1.12 (d) "Real property" includes any physical location or portion of real property that federal 1.13 or state law or local ordinance requires to be accessible to a person with a disability who is 1 14 using an assistance animal. 1.15 1.16 Subd. 2. **Immunity.** (a) An owner of real property is not liable for any injury or damage caused by an assistance animal if: 1.17 (1) the owner believes in good faith that the animal is an assistance animal or the 1 18 individual using the assistance animal represents that the animal is an assistance animal; 1.19 1.20 and (2) the injury or damage is not caused by the negligence of the owner of the real property 1.21 and the owner is not liable under section 347.22. 1 22

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(b) An owner does not have a duty to determine the existence of an exception to the
 applicable law that would allow the owner to deny access to the real property by a person
 using an assistance animal.

Section 1. 2