



# MAPBD WATCHDOG

Legislative Alert  
Michigan Association for Pure Bred Dogs

---

March 22, 2021

mapbd.org

## [HB 4256](#)

This bill would require all places of public accommodation to permit entry to all dogs that are either being socialized or trained to be service dogs.

### MAPBD OPPOSES THIS BILL

- **Under the ADA, a “service-dog-in-training “is NOT considered a service dog and can be denied access into places of public accommodation. The dog must already be trained before it can be taken into public places.**
- While States are permitted to make modifications to this definition, this bill would force all businesses to allow entry at all times to dogs that are not Federally recognized as service dogs.
- The ADA specifically states that **ANYONE** can train a service dog and that no certification is needed. However, this bill has chosen only two organizations to be authorized to certify “trainers.”
- **MAPBD** acknowledges that those who train service dogs should be qualified and competent. However, the certification process for Assistance Dogs International takes months to complete and even after the application is finally submitted, a response can take up to 6-months from submission.
- **Business owners should have the option of denying service-dogs-in training into their establishments. Trainers should take the initiative to acquire permission from the businesses they wish to utilize for training and socialization.**

**FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, MAPBD OPPOSES HB 4256.**

---

*MAPBD is a Michigan non-profit organization founded in 1964. MAPBD advocates responsible dog ownership and promotes fair and reasonable animal legislation in the state. For more information contact MAPBD President*

Bob Darden: [bobkdarden@hotmail.com](mailto:bobkdarden@hotmail.com)