

March 27, 1967

Passed on File

*Public Health and Welfare 3/28, Pass 4/5  
" " " " 4/19, Pass 5/4*

By STANLEY

Passed Senate, Date 4-14-67 Passed House, Date 5-11-67

Vote: Ayes 43 Nays 0 Vote: Ayes 90 Nays 0

Approved May 22, 1967

## A BILL FOR

An Act relating to the blind, the partially blind and the physically disabled.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 Section 1. It is the policy of this state to encourage  
2 and enable the blind, the partially blind and the physically  
3 disabled to participate fully in the social and economic life  
4 of the state and to engage in remunerative employment.

1 Sec. 2. The blind, the partially blind and the physically  
2 disabled shall be employed in the state service, the service  
3 of the political subdivisions of the state, the public schools,  
4 and all other employment supported in whole or in part by  
5 public funds, on the same terms and conditions as the able-  
6 bodied, unless it is shown that the particular disability  
7 prevents the performance of the work required.

1 Sec. 3. The blind, the partially blind and the physically  
2 disabled have the same right as the able-bodied to the full  
3 and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways,  
4 public buildings, public elevators, public facilities and  
5 other public places.

1 Sec. 4. The blind, the partially blind and the physically  
2 disabled are entitled to full and equal accommodations, facil-  
3 ities, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor  
4 vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, street cars, boats,  
5 other public conveyances or modes of transportation, hotels,  
6 lodging places, eating places, places of public accommodation,  
7 amusement, or resort, and other places to which the general

8 public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limita-  
9 tions established by law and applicable alike to all persons.

1 Sec. 5. Every blind or partially blind person shall have  
2 the right to be accompanied by a guide dog, under control and  
3 especially trained for the purpose, in any of the places listed  
4 in sections three (3) and four (4) without being required to  
5 make any additional payment for the guide dog. He shall be  
6 liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by  
7 such dog.

1 Sec. 6. A blind or partially blind pedestrian not carrying  
2 a cane or using a guide dog in any place shall have all of the  
3 rights and privileges conferred by law upon other persons, and  
4 the failure of a blind or partially blind pedestrian to carry  
5 a cane or to use a guide dog in any place shall not be held  
6 to constitute or be evidence of contributory negligence.

1 Sec. 7. Any person, firm, or corporation, or the agent of  
2 any person, firm, or corporation, who denies or interferes with  
3 the rights of any person under this Act shall be guilty of a  
4 misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of  
5 not more than two hundred (200) dollars.

1 Sec. 8. The governor shall annually take suitable public  
2 notice of October 15 as white cane safety day. He shall issue  
3 a proclamation commenting upon the significance of the white  
4 cane; calling upon the citizens to observe the provisions of  
5 this Act and sections three hundred twenty-one point three  
6 hundred thirty-two (321.332) and three hundred twenty-one  
7 point three hundred thirty-three (321.333) of the Code and to  
8 take precautions necessary for the safety of the disabled;  
9 reminding the citizens of the policies herein declared and  
10 urging the citizens to cooperate in giving effect to them;  
11 and emphasizing the need of the citizens to be aware of the  
12 presence of disabled persons in the community and to offer  
13 assistance to disabled persons upon appropriate occasions.

1 Sec. 9. Sections three hundred fifty-one point thirty  
2 (351.30) through three hundred fifty-one point thirty-two

3 (351.32), inclusive, Code 1966, are hereby repealed.

EXPLANATION

This is a Model White Cane Law, adapted to existing Iowa laws, which has been requested by the Iowa Association of the Blind, Inc.