



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

FROM: Susi Lampe, CMC, IaCMC, IaCFO – Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/Treasurer

DATE OF MEETING: September 8, 2025

ITEM TITLE: 2025 Legislative Code Amendment – First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Provisions Pertaining to Service Animals – Section 55.18

BACKGROUND:

Required code changes based on the recent legislative session. Simmering-Cory Iowa Codification sends an order form each year following the end of the legislative session to make cities aware of necessary code changes.

HF 615 – Relating to Service Animals. HF 615 relates to the offense of intentional misrepresentation of an animal as a service animal or service-animal-in-training.

DISCUSSION:

I have already submitted the order form to Simmering-Cory Iowa Codification, and they have prepared the ordinance to amend the appropriate code section(s) within Independence's Code of Ordinances. These changes are more administrative changes to the Iowa Code and Independence Code.

RESULTS:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Fees are to be paid to Simmering-Cory Iowa Codification in the amount of \$155.00. There will be additional costs for publication that will be incurred.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending provisions pertaining to service animals –Section 55.18.

Staff recommends a motion to suspend the statutory rule requiring an ordinance to be considered and voted on for passage at two council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed.

Staff recommends a motion to have this ordinance, amending provisions pertaining to service animals –Section 55.18, be placed on its final passage for adoption pursuant to Iowa Code Section 380.3 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Ordinance. The changes will be effective upon the ordinance summary being published in the newspaper.