

The Dept. of Transportation has authored a proposed rule that could require partners of "larger" assistance dogs to purchase a seat for their dogs when travelling by air. The rule says if the dog is too large to fit under the seat or stay within the floorspace allocated the partner has several options: 1) purchase a second seat for the dog 2) shipping the dog in cargo 3) waiting for a different, possibly larger plane on another flight.

I believe that the spirit of the ADA is to level the playing field so that people with disabilities do not need to cope with the loss of their sight, hearing, or mobility if there is a way to compensate for their disability.

People with disabilities should not be required to pay extra to keep their dogs with them to compensate for their disability. Think for a moment how it would feel if you had to remove your arms, legs, eyes, or ears and put them in a cargo hold or pay for an extra seat for these essential body parts. It certainly isn't fair that just because you have a disability, you must pay extra. It certainly isn't fair that you'd have to do without these essential body parts during the flight, and it certainly isn't fair that you'd have to do without your body parts until you retrieved them from a cargo hold where they may be endangered because of the temperature extremes.

Please reconsider. Thank you!