

## Jordan's Testimony For Therapy Dog Bill - SB299

My name is Jordan Hamouch. I was born on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2015. I am 10 years old and am in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Twinbrook Elementary School. I just want to ask you if you want me to talk about Therapy Dogs and I can tell you a lot about them.

The first therapy dog I ever met was Kozy Girl. I really liked Kozy Girl, Ms. Kuhn's therapy dog who used to come to Twinbrook. She was adorable, had a cute collar and was a therapy dog. She used to lick me and let me pet her and scratch her chin.

Therapy dogs help kids by helping kids learn to be good leaders. I miss Kozy Girl and am sad that she died. Ms. Kuhn has a new dog who is here today. His name is Louie. A Therapy dog's job is to be nice to kids and nice to adults and to be nice to everyone.

Maybe you will agree that all kids should be able to have a therapy dog come to their school. Other kids should have therapy dogs in their schools because it would be nice to have the dogs to help kids learn to be good people.

Dogs let kids pat their heads and their heads are very soft, and I feel good and happy when I pet a therapy dog's head. Dogs can do different tricks to make kids feel better and you can also feed them treats. The dogs make kids feel happy and loved and the kids make the dogs feel loved. When I get to walk with a therapy dog, I feel loved and special.

Do you agree or not that we can have dogs in schools in the state of Maryland? So that's it for today. Thank you for allowing me to testify today.