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By Messrs. DiVitto of Milford and Mr. Davoren of Milford (by request), petition of Gladys G. Crockett and another for legislation relative to the elimination of certain animal diseases. Agriculture.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Five.

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN ANIMAL DISEASES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 129 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out section 14A, as amended  
3 by section 2 of chapter 655 of the acts of 1953, and in-  
4 serting in place thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 14A.* All domestic animals which are affected  
6 with, or have been exposed to, vesicular stomatitis or  
7 vesicular exanthema shall be quarantined, appraised  
8 by an appraiser of the division and an appraiser appointed  
9 by the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry.

10 Animals which are affected with, or have been ex-  
11 posed to, vesicular exanthema, as determined by the  
12 director, shall be sold on bid, with the approval of the  
13 director, for slaughtering at a slaughtering establish-  
14 ment under federal supervision. The products of said  
15 animals shall be processed. The commonwealth shall  
16 pay to the owner of the animal or animals slaughtered  
17 under this section one half of the difference between  
18 the amount received by the owner for the carcass of the  
19 animal and the value of the animal as determined by  
20 appraisal, said payment to be paid from amounts ap-  
21 propriated therefor; provided, that payment by the

22 commonwealth hereunder shall not exceed eighteen dol-  
23 lars for any animal; and further provided, that an  
24 owner of such animals shall certify to the director that  
25 he has been the owner thereof for a period of not less  
26 than sixty days prior to the date of appraisal, except that  
27 young animals which are less than sixty days of age and  
28 are offspring of such animals may also be eligible to be  
29 included in such payments. No payment shall be made,  
30 as provided in this section, unless the director has de-  
31 termined that the owner of such an animal has com-  
32 plied with the provisions of this section and other appli-  
33 cable provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations  
34 of the division established thereunder and that the  
35 owner or his representative has not, in the opinion of  
36 the director, by willful act or neglect, contributed to  
37 the spread of vesicular stomatitis or vesicular exanthema,  
38 and in the case of swine unless the animal has been fed  
39 entirely on grain or has for thirty days or more prior  
40 to being affected with the disease been fed no garbage  
41 other than that prepared in accordance with the provi-  
42 sions of section fourteen B. Animals affected with, or  
43 exposed to, vesicular stomatitis shall be disposed of as  
44 the director directs.

45 The director shall also issue such directions for the  
46 cleansing and disinfection of buildings, premises and  
47 places in which vesicular stomatitis or vesicular exan-  
48 thema exists or has existed, and of property which may  
49 be on or contained therein, as in his opinion may be  
50 necessary or expedient, and no such buildings, premises,  
51 places and property shall be again used for the raising  
52 of such animals until so authorized by the director in  
53 writing. Any property on such premises which may be,  
54 in the opinion of the director or of his agents, a source  
55 of contagion may be destroyed by order of the director.  
56 The director may appoint persons to make appraisals  
57 on livestock, the destruction or slaughter of which is  
58 ordered under this section. If the United States govern-  
59 ment makes an appropriation for payment of a certain  
60 portion of the value of any animals destroyed or slaugh-

61 tered under this section, the payment by the common-  
62 wealth for such animals shall be limited to the difference  
63 between such portion and the full value less salvage  
64 thereof determined as herein provided, which shall not  
65 be in excess of fifty per cent of such value.

66 The director shall make such rules and regulations  
67 in respect to the importation into the commonwealth  
68 of such animals or products therefrom as he may deem  
69 necessary. All determinations of value made hereunder  
70 shall be at fair market value.

1 SECTION 2. For the reimbursement of owners of  
2 livestock as provided in this act, there is hereby appro-  
3 priated from the General Fund the sum of  
4 dollars, subject to the provisions of law regulating the  
5 disbursement of public funds and the approval thereof.

