

HOUSE No. 1080

By Mr. Tivey of Billerica (by request), petition of William E. Porter and others for legislation to limit the training period of hunting dogs. Conservation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO LIMIT THE TRAINING PERIOD OF HUNTING DOGS.

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 one hundred and thirty-one,
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
3 out section one hundred and twelve, as appearing in
4 section one of chapter five hundred and ninety-nine
5 of the acts of nineteen hundred and forty-one, and
6 inserting in place thereof the following:—

7 *Section 112.* Nothing in this chapter shall be con-
8 strued to prohibit the training of hunting dogs, so
9 called, during the open seasons provided by this
10 chapter; nor shall anything therein be construed to
11 prevent the holding of field trials for such dogs if
12 authorized by a permit from the director and con-
13 ducted in accordance with such rules and regulations
14 as he may prescribe. Nor shall anything in this
15 chapter be construed to require a person attending or
16 participating in such a field trial to secure sporting or

17 other licenses; provided, no firearms are carried by
18 such persons and no birds or mammals are taken or
19 killed by him. Authority is hereby directed to the
20 director to issue such permits and to make such rules
21 and regulations.

1 SECTION 2. Hunting dogs, when running on land
2 not belonging to the owner of said dogs, to the owner's
3 agent, or his tenant, shall be trespassing dogs.

1 SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the state, or
2 local police, dog officers, and boards of selectmen,
3 upon the complaint of any owners of real estate, of
4 the owner's agent, or his tenant, to take such action
5 as may be necessary to abate the nuisance caused by
6 trespassing dogs.

1 SECTION 4. Owners of hunting dogs shall be liable
2 to a fine of five dollars for the first offense, ten dollars
3 for the second offense, and twenty-five dollars for
4 each subsequent offense, for each dog found running
5 on land not belonging to the owner of said dogs, to
6 the owner's agent, or his tenant.

1 SECTION 5. No owner of real estate, his agent nor
2 his tenant, shall be liable for any damage such owner,
3 agent or tenant may cause to a trespassing dog.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.