

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 6188

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 9, 1979.

The committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5344) of Robert S. Akeson and others for legislation to prohibit the use of vertebrate animals for experimental or exhibitional purposes in science fairs, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 6188) ought to pass.

For the committee,

RICHARD J. DWINELL

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine.

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### AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF VETEBRATE ANIMALS FOR EXPERIMENTAL OR EXHIBITIONAL PURPOSES IN SCIENCE FAIRS.

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

1 Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by  
2 inserting after section 33 the following new section: —

3 *Section 33A.* In any elementary or high school activity, live  
4 vertebrate animals shall not, as part of a scientific experiment or any  
5 purpose whatever be experimentally medicated or drugged in a  
6 manner to cause painful reactions or induce painful or lethal  
7 pathological conditions, or be injured through any other treat-  
8 ments, including, but not limited to anesthetization or electric  
9 shock.

10 Live animals on the premises of any elementary or high school  
11 shall be housed and cared for in a humane and safe manner.

12 No animals shall be displayed at school activities such as science  
13 fairs, unless under the direct supervision of a science teacher or  
14 other authorized adult.

15 Violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less  
16 than ten nor more than fifty dollars. The provisions of this section  
17 are not intended to prohibit or constrain vocational instruction in  
18 the normal practices of animal husbandry.