

SENATE . . . . . No. 225

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By Mr. Rotondi (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 225 of Gertrude Costa for legislation to permit counties to expend monies from the dog fund for animal population control. Counties.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT PERMITTING COUNTIES TO EXPEND MONIES FROM THE DOG  
FUND FOR ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL.

*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 140 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
- 2 striking out Section 172 and inserting in place thereof the
- 3 following section: —
- 4 *Section 172.* Money received by a county treasurer under
- 5 the preceding sections relating to dogs, and not paid out for
- 6 damages, license blanks or books, record books, anti-rabic
- 7 vaccine, or other purposes as required under said sections,
- 8 shall be used for the purpose of subsidizing the expense of
- 9 spaying or neutering of: (a) all mixed breed dogs and (b) all
- 10 pure breed dogs which have been obtained from a pound.
- 11 Said subsidy shall be equal to one-half of the fee charged for
- 12 spaying or neutering, except that in no case will the amount
- 13 exceed seventeen dollars. The county dog officer is authorized
- 14 and directed to provide application forms for this subsidy. He
- 15 shall distribute these forms to veterinarians who will give
- 16 these forms to people who are having their pets spayed and/or
- 17 neutered. Said application must be completed by the dog
- 18 owner and sent back to the county dog officer. In order to be
- 19 eligible for said subsidy, the owner must submit with his
- 20 application the following: (1) a copy of the receipt for the
- 21 spaying or neutering, (2) proof that the dog was licensed and
- 22 had obtained distemper and rabies shots, at the time of the
- 23 spaying or neutering, and (3) in the case of pure breed dogs

24 only, proof of purchase from any pound. Once the dog officer  
25 is satisfied that the applicant qualifies under this law, he will  
26 then authorize the payment due to said applicant.

27 In January, all money not spent for the above purposes  
28 shall be paid back to the treasurer of the towns, and the  
29 money so refunded shall be expended for the care of dogs  
30 including but not limited to the establishment of a humane  
31 pound, and/or a spay clinic.