

By Mr. Flynn of Amesbury, petition of Bernard D. Flynn to require deaf or hearing handicapped persons accompanied by "hearing" dogs, to be admitted to all places of public accommodation. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING DEAF OR HEARING HANDICAPPED PERSONS ACCOMPANIED BY "HEARING" DOGS TO BE ADMITTED TO ALL PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.

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 272 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
2 out section 98A, inserted by section 1 of chapter 155 of the acts of
3 1938, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

4 *Section 98A.* Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any
5 blind person or deaf or hearing handicapped person accompanied
6 by a "seeing eye" dog, or "hearing" dog, so called, which dog is used
7 as a leader or guide, shall, if such dog is properly and safely
8 muzzled, be entitled to any and all accommodations, advantages,
9 facilities and privileges of all public conveyances, public
10 amusements and places of public accommodation, within the
11 commonwealth, to which persons not accompanied by dogs are
12 entitled, subject only to the conditions and limitations applicable
13 to all persons not accompanied by dogs, and no such blind person
14 or deaf or hearing handicapped person shall be required to pay any
15 charge or fare for or on account of the transportation on any public
16 conveyance of himself and such dog so accompanying him in
17 addition to the charge or fare lawfully chargeable for his own
18 transportation. Whoever deprives any blind person or deaf or
19 hearing handicapped person of any right conferred by this section
20 shall be punished by a fine of not more than three hundred dollars.

