

HOUSE No. 287

Bill accompanying fourteenth recommendation of the Board of Commissioners on Fisheries and Game (House, No. 273). Fisheries and Game. January 11.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eleven.

AN ACT

Relative to Dogs hunting at Large.

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. It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee
2 or custodian of any dog to permit such dog to run at
3 large, with the knowledge and consent of the owner, in
4 woods or fields inhabited by game birds or quadrupeds
5 at any time, except only between the first day of October
6 and the last day of February, both dates inclusive: *pro-*
7 *vided, however,* that at all other times during the year,
8 such dog or dogs may be allowed to run when the owner,
9 lessee or custodian is with such dogs or dogs.
- 10 If a dog has twice been found running at large and
11 hunting within the limits prescribed in this section, and
12 if the owner or keeper of the dog has so been notified on

13 each occasion by the commissioners on fisheries and game,
14 it shall be a presumption of law, if the same dog is there-
15 after found running at large, that such running was with
16 the knowledge and consent of the said owner or keeper,
17 unless the contrary is shown by evidence.

18 It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to mo-
19 lest, harass or annoy any game bird or quadruped by
20 breaking, training, or practicing any dog upon any game
21 bird or quadruped during the respective seasons in which
22 the game bird or quadruped are protected by law: *pro-*
23 *vided, however,* that it shall be lawful for any person or
24 persons to train or practice dogs upon game birds for fif-
25 teen days next preceding the opening of the ruffed
26 grouse, quail and woodcock season in each year; *pro-*
27 *vided, further,* that it shall be unlawful for any such per-
28 son to have in his possession any firearms, or other device
29 for capturing, killing, or injuring birds or quadrupeds,
30 while so engaged in training and practicing such dogs;
31 and *provided* that at no time shall any dog be allowed to
32 run rabbits at night.

1 SECTION 2. Whoever violates the provisions of this
2 act shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-
3 five dollars.