By Ms. Amick (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 209) of Thomas K. Short for legislation to further regulate the killing or maiming of livestock or fowl by dogs. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE KILLING OR MAIMING OF LIVESTOCK OR FOWL BY 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 Chapter 140, section 161, property damage, appraisal, reim-
2 bursement, is hereby repealed and inserting in place thereof
3 section 161. Whoever suffers loss by worrying, maiming, or
4 killing of his livestock or fowls by dogs, outside the premises
5 of the owners or keepers of such dogs, may, if the damage is
6 done in a city or town, inform the chief of police in the city or
7 town, who shall inform any law enforcement officer involved
8 with animal control within said city or town, to investigate
9 any such damages caused by dogs. After completion of such
10 investigation, said chief of police in such city or town shall
11 upon request send a report to the county commissioner inform-
12 ing same that an investigation has been made and is on file at
13 the police station where incident had occurred. In no case
14 shall an officer involved with animal control, in such city or
15 town, appraise any such damages that were inflicted by dogs,
16 said appraisal shall be made by county official involved, and
17 any determination of payment shall be between the owner of
18 the livestock or fowl and the county officials. Therefore, the
19 officer involved with animal control shall not be required to be
20 involved with any determination of any payments of any kind.
21 Disposal of any livestock or fowl shall be made by the owner
22 or keeper of such livestock or fowl. The burden of proof of
23 where such disposal was made would be the owner or keeper
24 and shall be made in writing to the county commissioners.