

By Mr. Angelo of Saugus, petition of Steven Angelo for legislation to require the licensing of animal pounds. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING THE LICENSING OF ANIMAL POUNDS.

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. Section 136A of Chapter 140 of the General
2 Laws as most recently amended by Section 3 of Chapter 631 of
3 the Acts of 1983 is hereby further amended by inserting after the
4 definition of "Research Institution; the following definition: —
5 "Animal Pound", an establishment or individual which humanely
6 confines, cares for, or disposes of seized, lost, or stray dogs and
7 cats pursuant to contract or arrangement with any City, town or
8 other public authority.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby
2 further amended by inserting the following new section, 174 E.

3 Every animal pound, must obtain a license from the
4 Commissioner. The Commissioner may make rules and regula-
5 tions governing the application, issuance and revocation of such
6 licenses and the conduct of the animal pound so licensed, and
7 governing the maintenance of the premises and conveyances, the
8 health of the dogs and cats and the method and time of inspec-
9 tion of such animal pounds. The License shall be effective for a
10 period of three (3) years from the date of issuance and may be
11 renewed for a period of up to three (3) years.

12 The Commissioner or an agent designated by him may, in con-
13 nection with the granting, continuance, or renewal of a license,
14 visit and inspect the animal pound or any animal pound which

15 has applied for a license. The Animal Rescue League of Boston
16 and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to
17 Animals and Animal Rescue League of New Bedford may be
18 designated as agents of the Commissioner.

1 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any provision of section 147 to
2 the contrary, section 174 E, shall be applicable to all animal
3 pounds in all cities and towns.