

By Ms. Buell of Greenfield, petition of Carmen D. Buell and Stanley C. Rosenberg for legislation to further regulate licensing fees for dogs. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING LICENSE FEES FOR 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 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
2 out section 139, as appearing in the 1990 Official Edition, and
3 inserting in place thereof the following section: —

4 Section 139. The fee for every license shall, except as otherwise
5 provided, be six dollars for a dog, male or female, unless a
6 certificate of a registered veterinarian who performed the
7 operation that said female dog has been spayed or said male dog
8 has been neutered and has thereby been deprived of the power
9 of propagation has been shown to the town clerk, in which case
10 the fee shall be three dollars. If the town clerk is satisfied that
11 the certificate of the veterinarian who spayed or neutered the dog
12 cannot be obtained, he may accept in lieu thereof a statement
13 signed under the penalties of perjury by a veterinarian registered
14 and practicing in the commonwealth, describing the dog and
15 stating that he has examined such dog and that it appears to have
16 been, and in his opinion has been spayed or neutered and thereby
17 deprived of the power of propagation or a receipt of a bill from
18 the veterinarian who performed the operation that spayed such
19 female dog or neutered such male dog. No fee shall be charged
20 for a license for a dog specially trained to lead or serve a blind
21 person; provided, that the Massachusetts commission for the
22 blind certifies that such dog is so trained and actually in the service
23 of a blind person. No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog

24 professionally trained in the hearing dog business to serve a deaf
25 person; provided, that the director of the office of deafness
26 certifies that such dog is so trained and actually in the service of
27 the deaf person. No license fee or part thereof shall be refunded
28 because of the subsequent death, loss, spaying, neutering or
29 removal from the commonwealth or other disposal, of the dog,
30 nor shall any license fee or part thereof paid by mistake be paid
31 or recovered back after it has been paid over to the county under
32 section one hundred and forty-seven.