

By Mr. Antonioni, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 671) of Robert A. Antonioni, Stephen M. Brewer, Patricia A. Walrath, Jonathan L. Healy and Jane M. Swift for legislation relative to tort liability for the destruction of farm property. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF FARM PROPERTY.

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 242 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting, following Section 7, the following new section: —
3 Section 7A. Any person who, without permission, willfully
4 enters any agricultural or horticultural lands of another,
5 including but not limited to an orchard, garden, nursery,
6 cranberry bog, field, or vineyard, and carries away, takes, steals,
7 mutilates, destroys, damages, causes to be damaged, or cuts any
8 tree, shrub, fruit, berry, vegetable, grain, grass, hay, vine, plant,
9 flower, or any other agricultural commodity defined pursuant to
10 Chapter one hundred and twenty-eight, section one A, shall be
11 liable to the owner in tort for three times the amount of the
12 damages assessed therefor.

