

HOUSE . . . . No. 1730

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By Mr. Twohig of Boston, petition of James J. Twohig, Jr., relative to the imposition of penalties for the killing, maiming, enticing or carrying away of dogs, cats, animals or birds. Legal Affairs.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty.

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AGAINST ANYONE WHO KILLS, MAIMS, ENTICES, OR CARRIES AWAY A DOG, CAT OR OTHER ANIMAL OR BIRD.

*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 175 of chapter 140 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out in the last line the  
3 words "shall be punished by a fine of not more than  
4 one hundred dollars", and substituting therefor the  
5 words: — shall be punished by a fine of not less than  
6 five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dol-  
7 lars, or more than six months in the house of cor-  
8 rection, or both. In the event that a person is found  
9 guilty for a subsequent offence, he shall be sentenced  
10 to the house of correction for a period of not less than  
11 six months or more than one year, — so that it will  
12 read as follows: — Whoever wrongfully kills, maims,  
13 entices or carries away a dog or other domesticated  
14 animal or bird shall be liable in tort to its owner for

15 three times its value. Any person who removes from  
16 the dog of another its license tag, collar or harness, or  
17 who, without the authorization of the owner or keeper,  
18 holds or harbors a dog or other domesticated animal of  
19 another, or who holds or harbors a lost or strayed dog  
20 or other domesticated animal for more than forty-  
21 eight hours after such animal comes into his possession  
22 without reporting or taking it to the police station or  
23 dog officer nearest to the place where it was found and  
24 informing the police officer or dog officer in charge  
25 where such dog or other animal was found, the name,  
26 color, age, size and pedigree, as fully as possible, of  
17 such animal, and the person's own name and address,  
18 or who shall cause a dog to wear an imitation or  
29 counterfeit of the official tag prescribed by section one  
30 hundred and thirty-seven B of chapter one hundred  
31 and thirty-seven A or one hundred and thirty-seven B  
32 of chapter one hundred and forty, shall be punished  
33 by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more  
34 than one thousand dollars, or not more than six months  
35 in the house of correction, or both. In the event that  
36 a person is found guilty for a subsequent offence, he  
37 shall be sentenced to the house of correction for a  
38 period of not less than six months or more than one  
39 year.