

By Ms. Gardner of Holliston, petition of Barbara Gardner and others for legislation to further regulate the conduct of dog racing. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF DOG RACING.

*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. Chapter 128A of the General Laws, as appearing  
2 in the 1989 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding, after  
3 section 5B, the following three sections: —

4 Section 5C. No person licensed by the commission shall put to  
5 death, within the commonwealth, a racing greyhound or a retired  
6 racing greyhound except in a humane manner. For purposes of this  
7 section, the phrase “in a humane manner” shall mean by means of  
8 euthanasia by lethal injection, or by such other standards of  
9 humane killing as may be established by the American Veterinary  
10 Medicine Association.

11 The commission shall adopt regulations requiring that kennels  
12 and other appropriate licensees provide the commission with  
13 information and other data regarding the disposition of racing and  
14 retired racing greyhounds. For purposes of such regulations, “dis-  
15 position” shall mean “euthanasia, transfer to another jurisdiction,  
16 or donation for adoption or medical research purposes.” The com-  
17 mission shall maintain official records and statistics regarding the  
18 disposition of all greyhounds who have participated in dog racing,  
19 including schooling races, in Massachusetts.

20 Section 5D. There is hereby established a trust fund to be  
21 known as the Greyhound Humane Disposition and Adoption Trust  
22 Fund, under the direction and supervision of the commissioner of  
23 the Department of Food and Agriculture as trustee of said trust.

24 Said trustee may expend without appropriation all or any part  
25 of the Greyhound Adoption and Humane Disposition Trust Fund  
26 to agencies certified by the Department of Food and Agriculture  
27 to reimburse such agencies for all or part of the costs incurred by  
28 such agencies for the humane disposition and cremation of grey-  
29 hounds bred for racing who never qualify for pari-mutuel races, or  
30 of racing greyhounds who have reached the end of their racing  
31 career, or for all or part of the costs incurred by such agencies in  
32 preparing and placing such greyhounds for adoption.

33 Said trustee may prescribe terms and conditions for such expen-  
34 ditures, provided that, under no circumstances shall the trustee  
35 permit the expenditure of funds for purposes other than the adop-  
36 tion and the humane disposition of greyhounds. No such expendi-  
37 ture for the adoption and for the humane disposition of  
38 greyhounds shall be authorized by the trustee pursuant to a con-  
39 tract with a person, corporation, partnership, trust or any combina-  
40 tion of the same or any entity owned wholly or in part by a  
41 person, corporation, partnership, trust or any combination of the  
42 same or any other entity which owns or operates or holds any  
43 interest in any racetrack in the commonwealth.

44 The trustee shall require from a certified agency such vouchers,  
45 cancelled checks or other documents as the trustee may deem nec-  
46 essary to verify that expenditures from the trust were carried out  
47 in accordance with the provisions of this section.

48 Section 5E. Each person, partnership or corporation licensed to  
49 conduct a dog racing meeting shall pay into the Greyhound  
50 Humane Disposition and Adoption Trust Funds described in  
51 section 5D, on the day following each such dog racing meeting,  
52 the sum of 65 cents for each greyhound entered into pari-mutuel  
53 dog races conducted on the premises of such licensee.

54 Said sum of 65 cents shall be made of thirty cents to be taken  
55 from the amounts allocated to purses and thirty-five cents to be  
56 taken from the amounts allocated to the dog track licensee.

1 SECTION 2. Section 2 of chapter 128 of the General Laws, as  
2 most recently amended by section 2 of chapter 277 of the acts  
3 of 1986, is hereby further amended by adding the following para-  
4 graphs: —

5 No greyhound licensed by the department as a Massachusetts  
6 bred greyhound shall be put to death, within the commonwealth,  
7 except in a humane manner. For purposes of this paragraph, the  
8 phrase "humane manner" shall mean "by means of euthanasia by  
9 lethal injection or by such other standard of humane killing as  
10 may be established by the American Veterinary Medicine  
11 Association."

12 The department shall adopt regulations requiring owners of  
13 Massachusetts-bred greyhounds, or their agents, to provide the  
14 department with information and other data regarding the disposi-  
15 tion of such greyhounds within the commonwealth. For purposes  
16 of such regulations, the term "disposition" shall mean  
17 "euthanasia, transfer to another jurisdiction, or donation for adop-  
18 tion or medical research purposes." The department shall maintain  
19 official records and statistics regarding the disposition of all  
20 Massachusetts-bred greyhounds.

21 The department is authorized to certify entities of any kind  
22 which provide humane disposition and cremation, or adoption  
23 services for greyhounds bred for racing who never qualify for  
24 pari-mutuel races or for racing greyhounds who have reached the  
25 end of their racing career.

