
By Ms. Gobi of Spencer, petition of Sheryl Parker, Anne M. Gobi and Stephen M. Brewer relative to the control of dangerous dogs. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Three.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO DANGEROUS 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 Section 157 of chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following three
3 paragraphs:—

4 In the order of the selectmen, officer in charge of the animal
5 commission or person charged with the responsibility of handling
6 dog complaints, county commissioners or district court provides
7 for the banishment of the dog, the owner of the dog shall give
8 notice to the animal control officer or person charged with such
9 responsibility of the city or town where the dog is to be relocated
10 of the dog's pending arrival and its history.

11 The owner of the dog that is banished shall have 11 calendar
12 days to notify both the animal control officer of both the ban-
13 ishing community and the receiving community of the new loca-
14 tion and history of the dog. The 11 day period will start on the day
15 after the date the dog must be out of the community. If notice is
16 not sent within 11 days, a fine of \$50 per day, payable to the ban-
17 ishing community, not to exceed \$1,000, can be levied by the ban-
18 ishing community for each day after the notice was due. In
19 addition, the receiving community can assess a fine of \$50 per
20 day, not to exceed \$1,000 on the owner, payable to the receiving
21 community if they have not received the notice from said owner
22 of the dog that was sent within the 11 day period after the dog was
23 banished from the community.

24 The animal control officer in each community shall make such
25 notices available to the public upon request. Records of such
26 notices shall be maintained for a period not less than five years.