

HOUSE No. 1940

By Ms. Gobi of Spencer, petition of Anne M. Gobi and others relative to the control of dangerous dogs. Municipalities and Regional Government.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Anne M. Gobi	John D. Keenan
Stephen M. Brewer	Sheryl Parker
Todd M. Smola	Jennifer M. Callahan

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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

11 The owner of the dog that is banished shall have 11 calendar days
12 to notify both the animal control officer of both the banishing com-
13 munity and the receiving community of the new location and history
14 of the dog. The 11 day period will start on the day after the date the
15 dog must be out of the community. If notice is not sent within 11
16 days, a fine of \$50 per day, payable to the banishing community, not
17 to exceed \$1,000, can be levied by the banishing community for
18 each day after the notice was due. In addition, the receiving

19 community can assess a fine of \$50 per day, not to exceed \$1,000 on
20 the owner, payable to the receiving community if they have not
21 received the notice from said owner of the dog that was sent within
22 the 11 day period after the dog was banished from the community.

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