

HOUSE No. 3241

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul McMurtry

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to relocating turkeys in the town of Westwood.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul McMurtry

Michael F. Rush

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

11th Norfolk

Norfolk and Suffolk

HOUSE No. 3241

By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3241) of Paul McMurtry and Michael F. Rush that the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement assist in relocating wild turkeys found in the town of Westwood. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act relative to relocating turkeys in the town of Westwood.

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 131 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 19B the following section:-

3 Section 19C. (a) For purposes of this section, “relocation site” shall mean any wildlife
4 sanctuary, nature preserve or other predetermined area of land located within the commonwealth
5 deemed suitable for the release of wild turkeys by the director.

6 (b) The department shall promptly take possession and control of any wild turkey
7 captured by an animal control officer pursuant to subsection (c) of section 151 of chapter 140
8 and shall release the wild turkey into a relocation site.

9 (c) The department shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to carry out the
10 provisions of this section.

11 SECTION 2. Section 151 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
12 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 26, the words “animals, as” and
13 inserting in place thereof the following words:- animals, including the removal of a wild turkey
14 pursuant to subsection (c), or as.

15 SECTION 3. Said section 151 of said chapter 140, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
16 adding the following subsection:-

17 (c) Upon a complaint or report of a wild turkey living or occupying space in or near a
18 residence or place of business, an animal control officer shall attempt to capture the wild turkey
19 alive and remove the wild turkey from the area.

20 The animal control officer shall transfer possession and control of any captured wild
21 turkey to the department of fisheries, wildlife and environmental law enforcement as soon as is
22 practicable; provided, however, that the animal control officer shall keep the wild turkey in a
23 secure cage, room or other location suitable for the confinement of a wild turkey until the
24 department takes possession and control.