

SENATE No. 1111

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael O. Moore

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 the ownership of pets by convicted animal abusers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester	
Steven G. Xiarhos	5th Barnstable	2/18/2021
Jack Patrick Lewis	7th Middlesex	2/24/2021
Jessica Ann Giannino	16th Suffolk	3/1/2021
Adam J. Scanlon	14th Bristol	3/1/2021
James K. Hawkins	2nd Bristol	3/1/2021
John C. Velis	Second Hampden and Hampshire	3/1/2021
John F. Keenan	Norfolk and Plymouth	3/1/2021
Jason M. Lewis	Fifth Middlesex	3/11/2021
Mark C. Montigny	Second Bristol and Plymouth	3/11/2021
Brendan P. Crighton	Third Essex	3/11/2021
Paul K. Frost	7th Worcester	3/11/2021
Hannah Kane	11th Worcester	3/16/2021
Patrick M. O'Connor	Plymouth and Norfolk	3/24/2021
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex	3/24/2021
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex	4/6/2021
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk	4/6/2021

SENATE No. 1111

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1111) of Michael O. Moore, Steven G. Xiarhos, Jack Patrick Lewis, Jessica Ann Giannino and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the ownership of pets by convicted animal abusers. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to the ownership of pets by convicted animal abusers.

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. Section 35WW of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the figure “62”, in line 17, the following
3 words:- , fines collected pursuant to section 37 of chapter 129.

4 SECTION 2. Section 37 of chapter 129 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
5 amended by inserting after the fourth sentence the following sentence:- A fine assessed under
6 this section shall be deposited into the Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund established
7 in section 35WW of chapter 10.

8 SECTION 3. Section 77 of chapter 272 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
9 amended by adding the following paragraph:-

10 A person convicted of a violation of this section or of sections 77A, 77C, 80 ½, 94 or 95
11 shall not harbor, own, possess, exercise control over, adopt, or foster an animal for any length of
12 time that the court deems reasonable for the protection of all animals; provided, however, that

13 the length of time shall not be less than 5 years after the person's release from custody. Any
14 person found in violation of an order incorporating the provisions of this paragraph may, in
15 addition to any other punishment provided by law, be fined in an amount not exceeding \$1,000
16 for each animal held in unlawful ownership or possession and shall forfeit custody of any animal
17 involved in a violation of this paragraph to the custody of an entity incorporated under the laws
18 of the commonwealth for the prevention of cruelty to animals or for the care and protection of
19 homeless or suffering animals.