

SENATE . . . . . No. 1131

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Bruce E. Tarr*

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 promoting pet safety aka Crawford's Law.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>James M. Kelcourse</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>	<i>1/19/2021</i>
<i>Bradford Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2021</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2021</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>1/22/2021</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	<i>1/22/2021</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	<i>2/12/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/1/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/3/2021</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/19/2021</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>3/29/2021</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	<i>4/4/2021</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1131**

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1131) of Bruce E. Tarr, James M. Kelcourse, Bradford Hill, Joan B. Lovely and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote pet safety aka Crawford's Law. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act promoting pet safety aka Crawford's Law.

*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 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition  
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 77C the following section 77D:-

3 (a) A person who by willful, wanton, reckless, or negligent act causes the unnecessary or  
4 unjustified death of a cat or dog shall be liable in damages for the fair monetary value of the  
5 deceased animal to the owner of the animal, including, but not limited to, damages for the loss of  
6 comfort, protection, companionship, other special damages, services of the deceased animal to its  
7 owner; reasonable afterlife expenses of the deceased animal; court costs and attorney's fees; and  
8 other reasonable damages resulting from the willful, wanton, reckless, or negligent act. Non-  
9 economic damages shall have a cap value of \$30,000.00

10 (b) Damages under this section for unnecessary or unjustified death sustained by an  
11 animal shall be recovered in an action of tort by the aggrieved, commenced within three years

- 12 from the date, of death or from the date when the aggrieved knew, or in the exercise of
- 13 reasonable diligence, should have known, of the factual basis for a claim of relief