

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 561**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Bradford Hill*

*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 regulation of animal shelters.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED:      |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Bradford Hill</i> | <i>4th Essex</i>  | <i>1/19/2011</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 561**

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By Mr. Hill of Ipswich, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 561) of Bradford Hill relative to the regulation of animal shelters. Municipalities and Regional Government.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3703 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to the regulation of animal shelters.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Amend Chap 129 of the general laws by inserting the following:

2 Section 39E: Animal Shelters and Rescue (rehoming) Organizations

3 SECTION 1. Definitions:

4 “Shelter” – Any 501 (c )3 organization or other IRS not for profit status organization,  
5 that finds homes for unowned animals.

6 “Rescue Organization” – A 501 (c )3 organization or other IRS not for profit status  
7 organization other than a shelter as defined in this act that arranges for transfer of unowned dogs  
8 and cats to temporary or permanent homes in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

9 “Department” – Department of Agricultural Resources