

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 844**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Paul R. Heroux***

*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 to increase the fine for harming a police dog or horse.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>1/19/2017</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2017</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

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By Mr. Heroux of Attleboro, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 844) of Paul R. Heroux and others relative to increasing the fine for harming police dogs or horses. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1367 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act to increase the fine for harming a police dog or horse.

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

1 Chapter 272 Section 77A. Strike Section 77A and replace it with the following:

2 Whoever willfully tortures, torments, beats, kicks, strikes, mutilates, injures, disables or  
3 otherwise mistreats, a dog or horse owned by a police department or police agency of the  
4 commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions or whoever, willfully by any action  
5 whatsoever, interferes with the lawful performance of such dog or horse shall be punished by a  
6 fine of not less than one hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars or by  
7 imprisonment for not more than two and one-half years or both. Persons violating this section  
8 may be arrested without a warrant by any officer qualified to serve criminal process provided  
9 said offense is committed in his or her presence.