HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1053 FILED ON: 2/1/2021

HOUSE . . . . . No. 306

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce J. Ayers

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 sale of dogs and cats in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Bruce J. Ayers	*1st Norfolk*	*2/1/2021*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1053 FILED ON: 2/1/2021

HOUSE . . . . . No. 306

By Mr. Ayers of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 306) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in pet shops. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *3828* OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the sale of dogs and cats in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

Chapter 129 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 39A the following section:

Section 39A½. A pet shop operator shall not sell a live dog, cat or rabbit in a pet shop unless the dog, cat or rabbit was obtained from a publicly owned animal pound, public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter or rescue group that is in a cooperative agreement with at least 1 private or public shelter.Each pet shop shall maintain records sufficient to document the source of each dog, cat or rabbit that the pet shop sells or provides space for, for at least 1 year. Each pet shop shall post, in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure of each animal, a sign listing the name of the publicly owned animal pound, public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention

of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter, or rescue group from which each dog, cat or rabbit was obtained. Publicly owned animal pound and public animal control agencies or shelters may periodically require pet shops engaged in the sale of dogs, cats or rabbits to provide access to said records.

A pet shop operator who violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of $500. Each animal offered for sale in violation of this section shall constitute a separate violation.