

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 826**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Natalie M. Higgins and Kimberly N. Ferguson*

*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 banning the retail sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in new pet shops.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Adam Scanlon</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2023</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>

<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/17/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/24/2023</i>
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>3/6/2023</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Simon Cataldo</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2023</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>Rodney M. Elliott</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/12/2023</i>
<i>Jennifer Balinsky Armini</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>3/12/2023</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/15/2023</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/23/2023</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/27/2023</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>4/3/2023</i>
<i>Jeffrey Rosario Turco</i>	<i>19th Suffolk</i>	<i>4/5/2023</i>
<i>Richard M. Haggerty</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/18/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>6/14/2023</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>6/14/2023</i>
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/27/2023</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>8/7/2023</i>
<i>Estela A. Reyes</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>10/30/2023</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>10/30/2023</i>
<i>Michael P. Kushmerek</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>10/31/2023</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/3/2023</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>11/7/2023</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>11/13/2023</i>
<i>Judith A. Garcia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>11/13/2023</i>
<i>William F. MacGregor</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>	<i>11/14/2023</i>

<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>11/27/2023</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>	<i>11/27/2023</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/30/2023</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>12/4/2023</i>
<i>John Francis Moran</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/4/2024</i>
<i>Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>1/9/2024</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>1/20/2024</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2024</i>
<i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/20/2024</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 826**

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By Representatives Higgins of Leominster and Ferguson of Holden, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 826) of Natalie M. Higgins, Kimberly N. Ferguson and others for legislation to further regulate the retail sale of certain domestic animals in new pet shops. Environment and Natural Resources.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act banning the retail sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in new pet shops.

*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 39A of Chapter 129 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting before the word “Every”, in line 1, the letter:-

3 (a)

4 SECTION 2. Section 39A of Chapter 129 of the General Law, , is hereby further  
5 amended by striking out the word “section”, in line 13, and inserting in place thereof the  
6 following word:-

7 subsection

8 SECTION 3. Section 39A of Chapter 129 of the General Laws is hereby further amended  
9 by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsections:-

10 (b) No person engaged in the business of operating a pet shop for which a license must be  
11 obtained pursuant to subsection (a); and are regulated under 330 CMR 12.00 shall sell or offer  
12 for sale a dog or cat, unless:

13 (1) the person engaged in the business of operating the pet shop received a Class A  
14 license from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources on or before the effective  
15 date of this act; and

16 (2) such person only sells or offers for sale dogs or cats from the location licensed to sell  
17 or offer for sale dogs or cats under subsection (b) paragraph (1).

18 (c) No person engaged in the business of operating a pet shop for which a license must be  
19 obtained pursuant to subsection (a); and are regulated under 330 CMR 12.00 shall sell or offer  
20 for sale a rabbit, unless:

21 (1) the person engaged in the business of operating the pet shop sold rabbits on or before  
22 the effective date of this act; and

23 (2) such person only sells or offers for sale rabbits from the location licensed to sell or  
24 offer for sale animals under 330 CMR 12.00.

25 (d) Nothing in subsections (b) or (c) shall affect the authority of any town, city, or other  
26 locality to regulate or prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, or rabbits.

27 SECTION 4. Whereas, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose,  
28 which is to establish forthwith certain changes to pet shop licensing and operations law,  
29 therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation  
30 of the public health.