

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven George Xiarhos and Steven S. Howitt

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 establishing a fund for the care of retired police dogs.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/3/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2424 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act establishing a fund for the care of retired police dogs.

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 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 2QQQQQ thereof the following new section:-

3 Section 2RRRRR. (a) There shall be a Retired Police Dog Care Fund that shall be
4 administered by the secretary of the executive office of public safety and security. The fund shall
5 consist of amounts credited to the fund from: (i) any appropriations, grants, gifts or other money
6 authorized by the general court or other parties and specifically designated to be credited to the
7 fund; and (ii) any income derived from the investment of amounts credited to the fund. Any
8 unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund
9 and shall be available for expenditure in the subsequent fiscal year.

10 (b) All amounts credited to the fund shall be used without further appropriation to make
11 grants to non-profit institutions located within the commonwealth for the purpose of providing

12 care and medical services to retired police dogs. The secretary of the executive office of public
13 safety and security shall be responsible for ensuring that funds are properly allocated to and used
14 by reputable organizations for the care and medical needs of retired police dogs. For purposes of
15 this section, a "police dog" shall be defined in section 1 of chapter 111C.

16 (c) Annually, not later than March 1, the secretary of the executive office of public safety
17 and security shall issue a report to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint
18 committee on public safety and homeland security, and the senate and house committees on
19 ways and means on the fund's activities including, but not limited to, amounts credited to the
20 fund, amounts expended from the fund and any unexpended balance.