HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1614 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1876

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Todd M. Smola

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 passage of the accompanying:

An act relative to standardizing rabies vaccination certificates.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Todd M. Smola	*1st Hampden*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1614 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1876

By Mr. Smola of Palmer, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1876) of Todd M. Smola relative to standardizing rabies vaccination certificates. Municipalities and Regional Government.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *3294* OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An act relative to standardizing rabies vaccination certificates.

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

SECTION 1. Section 145B of chapter 140 of the general laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

Whoever is the owner or keeper of a dog or cat in the commonwealth six months of age or older shall cause such dog or cat to be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian using a licensed vaccine according to the manufacturer's directions, and shall cause such dog or cat to be revaccinated at intervals recommended by the manufacturer. Unvaccinated dogs and cats acquired or moved into the commonwealth shall be vaccinated within 90 days after the acquisition or arrival into the commonwealth or upon reaching the age of 6 months, whichever last occurs. It shall be the duty of each veterinarian, at the time of vaccinating any dog or cat, to complete a certificate of rabies vaccination which shall include, but not be limited to the following information: the owner's name and address; a description of the animal, including breed, sex, date of birth, name and distinctive markings; the date of vaccination; the rabies vaccination tag number; the type of rabies vaccine used; the route of vaccination; the expiration date of the vaccine; and the vaccine lot number. Distribution of copies of the certificate shall be: the original to the owner, 1 copy retained by the issuing veterinarian and, within 14 days of the vaccination, 1 copy to the town or city clerk where the dog or cat is kept. All rabies certificates

18 shall be in the following form and shall be printed in at least 12 point type on 8 ½ by 11 inches
19 sheets of non-carbon issued paper:

20

21 CERTIFICATE OF RABIES VACCINATION

22 NAME OF PROVIDER/CLINIC NAME_____

23 ADDRESS_____

24 TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

25 FAX NUMBER_____

26

27 Name of owner: _____

28 Residence of Owner: _____

29 Street/Road _____

30 City/Town _____ MA

31 Mailing address if different from residence: _____

32 _____

33

34 Telephone number_____

35 2nd contact number (optional) _____

36

37 Name of Dog or Cat _____

38 Breed _____

39 Sex: Male _____ Female _____ Neutered _____ Spayed _____

40 Date of Neutering/Spaying (if known) _____

41 Color: _____

42 Date of Birth (not age of animal) _____

43 Date of Vaccination _____ Date of Expiration _____

44 Vaccine is One Year _____ Three Year _____

45 Rabies Tag # _____

46 Provider Signature: _____

47 If dog is not able to receive a Rabies Vaccination due to age, illness or other reason
48 please specify here to insure owner may procure the mandated license:

49

50 Per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140 Section 137, all dogs must be licensed at six
51 (6) months of age. (This statement must be in bold print).

52

53 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2012.