

Joint Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries

Bill Summary

Bill Number:	H.2319
Title:	An Act to protect animal health
Sponsor:	Representative O'Day of West Boylston
Cosponsors:	None
Hearing Date:	Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 10:00 PM - 01:00 PM, B-1
Reporting Date:	Saturday, November 15th, 2025
Similar Matters:	None

Prior History

New file; No prior history

Current Law

Chapter 129 of the Massachusetts General Laws relates to animal health, the prevention of cruelty to animals, livestock disease control and the training of service animals. Section 27 of this chapter relates to the seizure, quarantine and destruction of animals brought to the Commonwealth from outside it by the Director of the Division of Animal Health in the Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR).

Summary

This bill requires that nonprofits who rescue animals and make them available for adoption report the number of dogs and cats brought into the state the previous year to the Director of the Division of Animal Health. They must also identify the place of origin of these animals and the transporter, as well as any other information the Director requires. Nonprofits which are licensed by the Commonwealth to deal or auction horses, pigs, cows, or poultry, or which are licensed as a pet shop, are exempt from the requirements of this bill.