

# ALERT ALERT ALERT

## Senate Docket 1247 - An Act relative to dangerous dogs in cities and towns Sponsor: Sen. Michael F. Rush (D)

The Mayor of Boston put forth statewide legislation to return to breed-specific legislation (BSL) in his priority package of bills that was released on January 15<sup>th</sup>. The bill is being spearheaded by Councilor Rob Consalvo of Boston, though has been filed in the state legislature by State Senator Michael Rush\*.

**Please contact both your state senator and state legislator and ask them NOT to co-sponsor SD 1247.** The bill, text below, would allow cities and towns to enact ineffective breed-specific legislation. Even though it was initiated by Boston, the bill would allow BSL anywhere in the state.

If you live in **Boston**, this is especially important, as the Boston delegation (representative and senators who represent any part of Boston) will likely be heavily lobbied by Councilor Consalvo to sign on as co-sponsors.

- You can find out who they are at: [www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com)
- All legislators can be reached at: 617-722-2000
- The state's website: [www.malegislature.gov](http://www.malegislature.gov)



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SD 1247, An Act relative to Dangerous Dogs in Cities and Towns

SECTION 1. Subsection a of section 157 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 31 of chapter 193 of the acts of 2012, is hereby amended by inserting in the first paragraph, after the word “dog”, in clause ii, the following:-

Unless municipal attack data indicates a specific breed may be deemed dangerous.

SECTION 2. Subsection c of section 157, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting in the last paragraph, after the word “breed”, the following:-

Unless a city or town deems a specific breed to be deemed dangerous through analysis of municipal attack data and by a majority vote of the city council with the approval of the mayor, in the case of a city with a Plan A, Plan B, or Plan F charter; by a majority vote of the city council, in the case of a city with a Plan C, Plan D, or Plan E charter; by a majority vote of the annual town meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose, in the case of a municipality with a town meeting form of government; or by a majority vote of the town council, in the case of a municipality with a town council form of government.

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\* if your state senator is Mike Rush, please *contact him to express your disappointment with him for filing this bill* (Norfolk and Suffolk - Consisting of the city of **Boston**, ward 18, precincts 9, 10, 16 to 20, inclusive, and 23, ward 19, precincts 10 to 13, inclusive, and ward 20 in the county of Suffolk; and the towns of **Dover**, **Dedham**, **Needham**, precincts D to H, inclusive, **Norwood** and **Westwood** in the county of Norfolk.)