



**OPPOSE SB458 – An Act Relative to Privately Operated Animal Shelters
and Rescue Organizations
Sen. Mark Montigny (D)**

WHAT THIS BILL DOES:

Amends GL 129:39A to exempt privately operated animal shelters or rescue organizations from having to obtain a pet shop license from the Director of Animal Health in the Department of Food and Agriculture and from the regulations imposed upon those licensees.

WHY YOU SHOULD OPPOSE THIS BILL:

MassFed and AKC oppose this bill as it would exempt privately operated animal shelters and rescue organizations from licensure requirements currently required of pet shop operators under Chapter 129, Section 39A of the Massachusetts General Laws. AKC Government Relations believes that Commonwealth oversight of shelters and rescues is a reasonable step toward protecting animals kept for sale at shelters and rescues, the people who purchase them, and the public's health and safety. Therefore, we are concerned that as introduced, this bill would allow shelters, rescues, and/or businesses and facilities that host business on behalf of those operations, to be exempt from reasonable government oversight.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners
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02/25/17

SENATE No. 458

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mark C. Montigny

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 relative to privately operated animal shelters and rescue organizations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mark C. Montigny

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Bristol and Plymouth

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 443 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

An Act relative to privately operated animal shelters and rescue organizations.

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 39A of Chapter 129 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is amended by striking the second paragraph, in lines 17 to 17, and inserting in place thereof the following:- This section shall not apply to a publicly or privately owned zoological park, a publicly owned animal pound, a privately operated animal shelter or rescue organization, to persons selling, exchanging or otherwise transferring the offspring of their personally owned animals, or to horse or cattle auctions.