



**OPPOSE SB990 - An Act Relative to Improving Enforcement for Tethering Violations
– Sen. Mark C. Montigny (D)**

Referred to Joint Committee on the Judiciary

WHAT THIS BILL DOES:

Massachusetts laws already limit unattended tethering to no more than 5 hours in a given 24-hour span, and no overnight hours (10 p.m. – 6 a.m.). This bill's main objective is to extend this language to include other forms of restraining such as fenced yards or outdoor kennels even if they have adequate access to shelter from bad weather. Being out of the visual range and physical presence of the owner is considered unattended for the purposes of this bill.

WHY YOU SHOULD OPPOSE THIS BILL:

Fenced yards and standard kennel runs with shelter are very effective and safe ways to secure one's dog for extended periods of time. This bill limits exposure to the elements to only 15 minutes which we believe is unreasonably short. Most dogs enjoy their outside time and are much happier than the alternative of being crated inside for long stretches of time. There are no health reasons to limit the number of hours a dog can be contained in this manner when water and adequate shelter is provided and sanitary conditions are maintained. This bill is unreasonable and just adds to the already unjust limitations we have on tethering a dog.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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