

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Kay Khan**

*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 bill:

**An Act relative to the regulation of animal shelters.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Kay Khan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

11th Middlesex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REGULATION OF ANIMAL SHELTERS.

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

1 To Amend Chapter 129 of the General Laws by inserting the following:

2 Section 39E: Animal Shelters and Rescue (rehoming) Organizations

3 SECTION 1. Definitions:

4 “Shelter” – Any 501 (c)3 organization or other IRS not for profit status organization that finds  
5 homes for unowned animals.

6 “Rescue Organization” – A 501 (c)3 organization or other IRS not for profit status organization  
7 other than a shelter as defined in this act that arranges for transfer of unowned dogs and cats to  
8 temporary or permanent homes in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

9 “Department” – Department of Agricultural Resources

10 SECTION 2: The Department may promulgate rules and regulations for the operation of shelter  
11 and rescue organizations operating or conducting business in the Commonwealth of  
12 Massachusetts regarding the transfer of ownership of domestic animals, including but not  
13 limited to their importation, transportation, housing and medical treatment.