



**HEARING 09/12/17**

**10am State House  
Rm A2**

**OPPOSE SB406 – An Act Protecting Dogs at Boarding Kennels & Daycare Facilities  
[Sen. Harriette L. Chandler (D)]**  
**OPPOSE HB407 – An Act Protecting Dogs at Boarding Kennels & Daycare Facilities  
[Rep. James Cantwell (D)]**

Referred to Joint Committee Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture

**What these bills do:**

Calls for the development of new regulations for dog boarding and daycare businesses.

**Why You should Oppose these bills:**

Has there been so much trouble with these facilities that increased regulation is being demanded by the public? It certainly hasn't been public news. The list of proposed aspects of future regulation for dog boarding and daycare is excessively long and intrusive and often subjective. It would require burdensome amounts of bookkeeping and expense both for the businesses and for the Ag Department, which would have to oversee them. The department doesn't have the personnel to handle this, so more important work would get neglected. Much of the subject matter is too subjective for fair enforcement. As for "staff qualifications and development," have the sponsors of this legislation found out whether courses for the required employee training and certification even exist? Training requirements would make it more expensive to hire employees and run a business in what is already a very poorly paid profession. Requiring such employees to get a lot of extra education is unreasonable. There are certainly not enough such schools, and these requirements would raise the price of dog boarding and daycare out of reach for many people. As for certifying employees in dog handling, body language interpretation, and breed familiarity, these would require overly subjective judgments. Requiring emergency response training also seems excessive. This bill acts as if special courses and professional degrees take precedence over what really matters in animal care -- talent, sensitivity, and experience.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners**

Bonnie Chandler, 978-456-3169, bchandler1@charter.net

Virginia Rowland; 978-424-1044; blackslate@aol.com

09/11/17

**SENATE . . . . . No. 406**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Harriette L. Chandler***

*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 protecting dogs at boarding kennels and daycare facilities.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/15/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>James E. Timilty</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 406**

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By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 406) of Harriette L. Chandler, James M. Cantwell, Jason M. Lewis, Lori A. Ehrlich and other members of the General Court for legislation to protect dogs at boarding kennels and daycare facilities. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act protecting dogs at boarding kennels and daycare facilities.

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

1 Chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by adding after Section 174F, the following new section:-

3 174G. The Department shall promulgate rules and regulations for boarding kennels and  
4 daycare facilities for dogs, including home-based kennels and daycare facilities, including, but  
5 not limited to staff qualifications and development, provider/dog ratios and interaction, group  
6 sizes and supervision, minimum housing and care requirements, indoor and outdoor physical  
7 facility requirements, utilities, dog handling, body language interpretation, breed familiarity,  
8 emergency response training, insurance, and penalties for violation thereof.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 407**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***James M. Cantwell and Hannah Kane***

*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 protecting dogs at boarding kennels and daycare facilities.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>

*Chris Walsh*

*6th Middlesex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 407**

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By Representatives Cantwell of Marshfield and Kane of Shrewsbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 407) of James M. Cantwell and others relative to rules and regulations governing boarding kennels and daycare facilities for dogs. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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