

# OLLIE'S LAW (S.1309/H.2019) KNOW THE FACTS!

A dog is injured or killed approximately every 10 days at a boarding kennel in MA.

— Jeremy Cohen of Boston Dog Lawyers

**Massachusetts boarding and doggie daycare facilities are unregulated** aside from requiring a city/town issued kennel license for a facility housing more than 4 dogs.

Bill S.1309/H.2019 An Act to Increase Kennel Safety, aka Ollie's Law This <u>bill</u> will help protect pets and people by requiring <u>MDAR</u> (Massachusetts Department of Agriculture) and an expert committee to recommend reasonable, attainable safety regulations for boarding, daycare, and higher-volume breeding facilities.

## Ollie's Law <u>will</u> ...

**Establish and enact state promulgated health and safety regulations** for boarding and kennel facilities.

**Assist Animal Control Officers** in addressing problematic cases for regulated kennels through MDAR support.

#### Facilitate important consumer information.

Businesses will be required to properly report injuries involving dogs or staff in boarding or kennel spaces. In the interest of transparency, injuries that have been opened to investigation and result in enforcement action will be made publicly available.

Make changes to the definition of a personal breeder kennel to refer to higher-volume breeding facilities, defined by the number of intact female dogs on a single premise kept for the purpose of breeding and selling the offspring.

#### Ollie's Law <u>will not</u> ...

**Limit business owners that want to operate a daycare or boarding facility for pets.** Ollie's Law will require MDAR, along with a committee of stakeholders, to establish reasonable safety regulations for boarding kennels, daycare facilities, and higher-volume breeding facilities.

**Change kennel licensing requirements.** The businesses are required to obtain a kennel license under current law.

Make changes to yearly kennel inspections. Animal Control Officers are and will continue to perform inspections and enforce licensing.

Change the regulation of pet shops, shelters, and rescues. These facilities are and will continue to be regulated by the state.

**Regulate private breeders** where animals are only bred for private personal use and not offered for sale or exchange.

### Committee /Section 8

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Ollie's Law requires an appointed committee to advise the commissioner of agricultural resources on regulations.

#### Such committee shall consist of:

- 1 member of MDAR
- 1 boarding/dog daycare owner (<50 dogs)
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- 1 Animal Control Officer or representative
- 1 veterinarian or member of veterinary medical association
- 1 certified animal behaviorist
- 1 member with 5+ yrs' experience training people on dog behavior
- 1 dog breeder (breeds <10 dogs/yr)</li>
- 1 dog breeder (breeds >10 dogs/yr)
- 1 member of animal protection organization
- 1 member of public with interest in animal wellbeing

# Ollie's Law is sponsored by Ollie's Law Coalition and 50 co-sponsors in the MA Senate and House of Representatives

## **OLLIE'S LAW COALITION**



Kindness and Care for Animals®







LAWYERS

State Senator MARK MONTIGNY



Named after Ollie, a 7-month-old labradoodle who was fatally mauled at a dog daycare, Ollie's Law Coalition aims to protect pets, pet owners, and employees at dog daycare/boarding facilities, while supporting business owners, through attainable state regulations.





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