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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

1737 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, Mass. 02138
May 24, 1979

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

My husband and I learned only last night that the City Council is to hold a hearing on June 4, 1979 on proposals to amend city ordinances relating to dogs. Since we cannot attend the hearing we are writing to you and have also written to Councillor David A. Wylie to register our strong support for any proposals that would require dog owners to assume legal and moral responsibilities for any actions by their dogs that causes physical damage to the persons or property of Cambridge residents.

We support the proposals, specifically, that require all dogs to be licensed, that dogs should be curbed so that their waste products are less of a health hazard to human beings, and that a new leash law be enforced so that dogs cannot run free or in packs that might and have endangered human beings. On the latter point we of course feel understandably bitter, since without an effective leash law in February, 1978 my husband was thrown off his bicycle in the Fresh Pond Reservoir area by a large Labrador's sudden swerving turn into his front wheel. Thrown to the hard asphalt path, my husband suffered a fractured left hip that took major surgery and several months of pain and inability to work. The owner of the dog has not contributed even one word of interest or sympathy for the 64-year-old victim, even though at the time of the accident he volunteered the information that his dog had knocked him off his bike once too. In our opinion, both the dog and his owner need some restraint so that we can all enjoy the recreational areas that Cambridge offers to all.

We await the results of the hearing with much interest.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth and Barrington Moore

P.S. We would appreciate your not publicizing our names, since we do not wish to be harassed by either dog owners or by burglars. The latter have already broken into our house twice. That is enough! Thank you.

S-244

Comm. from Elizabeth and Barrington Moore re:
proposed amendment to the General Ordinances
relative to the curbing of dogs.

In City Council,

June 4, 1979

Placed on File

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