

HB 1253 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2770
08/09

HOUSE BILL **1253**

AN ACT enabling the use of dogs to guard crops.

SPONSORS: Rep. Comtois, Belk. 7; Rep. J. Aron, Sull. 4; Rep. Bixby, Straf. 13; Rep. Kenny,
 Hills. 13; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill enables the use of dogs to guard crops without being restrained.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT enabling the use of dogs to guard crops.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Dog Control Law; Guarding Crops. Amend RSA 466:30-a, I to read as follows:

2 I. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any dog to
3 run at large, except when accompanied by the owner or custodian, and when used for hunting, for
4 guarding, working, ***guarding crops***, or herding livestock, as defined in RSA 21:34-a, II(a)(4), for
5 supervised competition and exhibition, or for training for such. For the purpose of this section,
6 "accompanied" means that the owner or custodian must be able to see or hear, or both, or have
7 reasonable knowledge of where the dog is hunting, where training is being conducted, where trials
8 are being held, or where the dog is guarding, working, or herding livestock. Nothing herein provided
9 shall mean that the dog must be within sight at all times.

10 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.