

SENATE No. 521

[Senate, No. 521. — Substituted by amendment (Coolidge) for Senate Bill No. 479.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Three.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE LIABILITY OF PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THE USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES UNDER CAR OR RIDE SHARING PLANS, SO CALLED.

1 *Whereas*, Because of the existing state of war and
2 the shortage of rubber and gasoline it is necessary
3 that owners and operators of motor vehicles share the
4 use of such vehicles with other persons, and

5 *Whereas*, The civil liability of such persons may be
6 seriously affected thereby, and

7 *Whereas*, It is necessary for the successful prosecution
8 of the war effort that persons engaged in such
9 car or ride sharing plans shall have immediate protection
10 of their civil rights and that their civil liabilities
11 shall not be increased, therefore it is hereby declared
12 to be an emergency law, necessary for the preservation
13 of the public safety and convenience.

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

1 SECTION 1. No occupant of a motor vehicle, as
2 such term is defined in section one of chapter ninety

3 of the General Laws, who shares the use of such
4 vehicle with the owner or operator thereof under a
5 car or ride sharing plan, so called, whether for com-
6 pensation or otherwise, shall, by reason of participat-
7 ing in such plan, be deemed to be engaged in a joint
8 enterprise with such owner or operator.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall cease to be operative
2 upon the termination of the existing states of war
3 between the United States and certain foreign
4 countries.