

SENATE No. 180

To accompany the petition of Ralph Lerche for legislation to require the equipping of motor vehicles with a lock and key and prohibiting persons in control thereof from leaving the vehicle unattended without first locking it and removing the key. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING THAT EVERY MOTOR VEHICLE SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH A LOCK AND KEY AND PROHIBITING THE PERSON IN CONTROL THEREOF FROM LEAVING THE VEHICLE UNATTENDED WITHOUT FIRST LOCKING IT AND REMOVING THE KEY.

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. Section 7 of chapter 90 of the General
2 Laws, as amended, is hereby further amended by
3 striking out the sentence contained in lines 19 to 27,
4 inclusive, as appearing in chapter 51 of the acts of
5 1933, and inserting in place thereof the following
6 sentence:—Every motor vehicle so operated shall
7 be provided with a muffler or other suitable device
8 to prevent unnecessary noise and with a suitable
9 bell, horn or other means of signalling, with suitable
10 lamps, and with a lock and key to prevent such

11 vehicle from being set in motion by unauthorized
12 persons, or otherwise, contrary to the will of the owner
13 or person in charge thereof.

1 SECTION 2. Section 13 of said chapter 90, as
2 appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby
3 amended by striking out the second sentence and
4 inserting in place thereof the following sentence:—
5 No person having control or charge of a motor vehicle
6 shall allow such vehicle to stand in any way and
7 remain unattended without first stopping the motor,
8 effectively setting the brakes, locking it and removing
9 the key to prevent such vehicle from being set in
10 motion by unauthorized persons, or otherwise, con-
11 trary to the will of the owner or person in charge.