

# HOUSE . . . . No. 689

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By Messrs. McCarthy of Medfield and McCarthy of Somerville, petition of Paul A. McCarthy and Frank D. McCarthy for legislation relative to registration of motor vehicles and trailers under a general distinguishing number or mark. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS UNDER A GENERAL DISTINGUISHING NUMBER OR MARK.

*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 5 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as  
2 most recently amended by section 6 of chapter 511  
3 of the acts of 1948, is hereby further amended by  
4 striking out said section 5 and inserting in place  
5 thereof the following section:—

6 *Section 5.* Every manufacturer, dealer, repair-  
7 man, owner-repairman and transporter, instead of  
8 registering each motor vehicle or trailer owned or  
9 controlled by him, may make application for a general  
10 distinguishing number or mark, and the registrar,  
11 if satisfied of the facts stated in the application, may  
12 issue to the applicant a certificate of registration  
13 containing the name and business address of the  
14 applicant and the general distinguishing number or

15 mark assigned to him, and made in such form and  
16 containing such further information as the registrar  
17 may determine. All motor vehicles or trailers owned  
18 or controlled by such manufacturer, dealer or repair-  
19 man shall be regarded as registered under the general  
20 distinguishing number or mark assigned to him until  
21 sold, or let for hire, or loaned for a period of more  
22 than five successive days, and all motor vehicles or  
23 trailers owned by such owner-repairman which are  
24 in the process of being repaired, altered, equipped or  
25 transferred from one location to another and which  
26 are not being used during such time in the operation  
27 of the principal business of said owner-repairman  
28 shall be regarded as registered under the general  
29 distinguishing number or mark assigned to him, and  
30 all motor vehicles which are under the control of  
31 but not owned by such transporter while being de-  
32 livered by him under their own power shall be re-  
33 garded as registered under the general distinguishing  
34 number or mark assigned to him; provided, that  
35 number plates, furnished as hereinafter provided,  
36 are properly displayed thereon. The registrar shall,  
37 upon payment of the fee provided in section thirty-  
38 three, furnish at his office to every manufacturer,  
39 dealer, repairman, owner-repairman and transporter  
40 whose vehicles are registered in accordance with  
41 this section, such number of pairs of number plates  
42 as he may request in writing of suitable design having  
43 displayed upon them the register number which is  
44 assigned to the vehicles of such manufacturer, dealer,  
45 repairman, owner-repairman or transporter, with a  
46 different letter or letters or mark on each pair of  
47 number plates, and, in addition, the registrar shall  
48 furnish to every transporter with each pair of number  
49 plates a corresponding certificate of registration.

50 Number plates furnished hereunder shall, except as  
51 provided by section nine, be valid only for the year  
52 for which they are issued. Every registration under  
53 this section shall expire at midnight on December  
54 thirty-first of each year. The word "dealer", for  
55 the purposes of the registration of motor vehicles  
56 or trailers under any provision of this chapter, may  
57 include, in the discretion of the registrar, a person  
58 who is engaged in the business of financing the pur-  
59 chase of or insuring motor vehicles, but only in respect  
60 to such vehicles as such person may take in possession  
61 by foreclosure or subrogation of title and all the pro-  
62 visions of this chapter relating to certificates of  
63 registration of dealers shall apply to certificates  
64 issued to such a person under this provision.

