

HOUSE No. 1772

By Mr. Glaser of Malden, petition of Louis H. Glaser for providing free registration plates and exemption from the payment of motor vehicle excise taxes for victims of multiple sclerosis. Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FREE REGISTRATION PLATES AND EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX BY VICTIMS OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS.

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. The seventh paragraph of section 2 of chapter 90
2 of the General Laws, as appearing in chapter 225 of the acts of
3 1953, is hereby amended by adding after the word "eye" in
4 line 22 of said paragraph, the following words: — to every per-
5 son who has been the victim of multiple sclerosis, so that said
6 paragraph shall read as follows: — The registrar shall furnish
7 at his office, without charge, to every person whose motor ve-
8 hicle is registered under this chapter, two number plates of suit-
9 able design, and to every person whose trailer is so registered,
10 one such number plate, having displayed thereon the register
11 number assigned to that vehicle; provided, that number plates
12 assigned to ambulances, fire engines and apparatus, police pa-
13 trol wagons and other vehicles used by the police department
14 of any city or town or park board solely for the official business
15 of such department or board, and pleasure passenger vehicles
16 owned by veterans who, according to the records of the United
17 States Veterans' Administration, by reason of service in the
18 armed forces of the United States have suffered loss or permanent
19 loss of use of one or both feet; or loss or permanent loss of use
20 of one or both hands; or permanent impairment of vision of

21 both eyes of the following status: central visual acuity of
22 20/200 or less in the better eye, with corrective glasses, or cen-
23 tral visual acuity of more than 20/200 if there is a field defect
24 in which the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent
25 that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular dis-
26 tance no greater than twenty degrees in the better eye, **to every**
27 **person who has been the victim of multiple sclerosis** and
28 to vehicles registered by any member of a foreign diplomatic
29 corps or by any foreign consular officer who is not a citizen of
30 the United States may be of a distinctive type or types. The
31 number plates so furnished shall, except as provided by section
32 nine, and except in case the registrar for any valid reason ex-
33 tends the time, be valid only for the year for which they are
34 issued. If the registrar extends the time he may make rules and
35 regulations requiring the display of visible evidence upon every
36 motor vehicle that it has been registered and that the plates
37 in use thereon are valid. Any plate becoming illegible because
38 of construction defects shall be replaced by the registrar with-
39 out cost. The registrar may also furnish plates of a distinctive
40 type or types for a pleasure passenger vehicle owned and oper-
41 ated by any person who has suffered the loss or permanent loss
42 of use of one or both feet, or of both hands. The registrar may
43 determine such standards of disability and of qualification for
44 the issuance of said plates as he deems proper.

1 SECTION 2. The fifth paragraph of section 1 of chapter 60A
2 of the General Laws, as appearing in chapter 320 of the acts of
3 1955, is hereby amended, by adding after the word "eye" in
4 line 23, the following words: — ; nor to a motor vehicle owned
5 and operated by a victim of multiple sclerosis, — and at the
6 end of said paragraph the words: — or multiple sclerosis vic-
7 tims, — so that said paragraph shall read as follows: — The
8 excise imposed by this section shall not apply to a motor vehicle
9 owned, operated and registered by a veteran of World War I,
10 World War II, or of service during the Korean emergency be-
11 tween June twenty-fifth, nineteen hundred and fifty and Janu-
12 ary thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, who according
13 to the records of the United States Veterans Administration, by
14 reason of service in the armed forces of the United States, has

15 suffered loss, or permanent loss of use of, one or both feet, or
16 loss, or permanent loss of use of, one or both hands; nor to a
17 motor vehicle owned and registered by a veteran of World War I,
18 World War II or of service during the Korean emergency be-
19 tween June twenty-fifth, nineteen hundred and fifty and Janu-
20 ary thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, who according
21 to the records of the United States Veterans Administration, by
22 reason of service in the armed forces of the United States has
23 suffered permanent impairment of vision of both eyes of the
24 following status: central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the
25 better eye, with corrective glasses, or central visual acuity of
26 more than 20/200 if there is a field defect in which the peripheral
27 field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter
28 of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than
29 twenty degrees in the better eye; **nor to a motor vehicle**
30 **owned and operated by a victim of multiple sclerosis.**
31 This exemption shall apply only to motor vehicles owned or
32 operated for the personal, non-commercial use of said veterans
33 **or multiple sclerosis victims.**

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees and sub-committees of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for the year ending December 31, 1917.

or multiple scientific studies.

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