

# SENATE . . . . No. 371

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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SENATE, February 19, 1931.

The committee on Highways and Motor Vehicles, to which was referred the petition (with accompanying resolve, Senate, No. 28) of Newland H. Holmes that the use of motor vehicle horns and other signalling devices be further regulated, reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 371).

For the committee,

NEWLAND H. HOLMES.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### An Act regulating the Use of Motor Vehicle Horns and Other Signalling Devices.

*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 sixteen of chapter ninety of the Gen-  
2 eral Laws is hereby amended by striking out,  
3 in the ninth line, the word “, or” and inserting  
4 in place thereof the following: — No person shall  
5 use such a bell, horn or device for any but high-  
6 way safety purposes, except in the course of  
7 repairing the same or when seeking to enter  
8 a public garage. No person shall use a siren  
9 horn, so called, on any motor vehicle except  
10 ambulances, fire engines and apparatus, police  
11 patrol wagons and other vehicles used by the  
12 state or metropolitan police or by the police  
13 department of any city or town. No person  
14 shall, — and by striking out, in the same line,  
15 the word “such” and inserting in place thereof  
16 the article: — a, — so as to read as follows: —  
17 *Section 16.* No person shall operate a motor ve-  
18 hicle, nor shall any owner of such vehicle permit  
19 it to be operated, in or over any way, public or

20 private, whether laid out under authority of law  
21 or otherwise, which motor vehicles are prohibited  
22 from using; provided, notice of such prohibition  
23 is conspicuously posted at the entrance to such  
24 way. No person operating a motor vehicle shall  
25 in a thickly settled or business district open the  
26 muffler cut-out or sound a bell, horn or other  
27 device for signalling so as to make a harsh, ob-  
28 jectionable or unreasonable noise. No person  
29 shall use such a bell, horn or device for any but  
30 highway safety purposes, except in the course of  
31 repairing the same or when seeking to enter a  
32 public garage. No person shall use a siren horn,  
33 so called, on any motor vehicle except ambu-  
34 lances, fire engines and apparatus, police patrol  
35 wagons and other vehicles used by the state or  
36 metropolitan police or by the police department  
37 of any city or town. No person shall at any time  
38 permit a motor vehicle to make any unnecessary  
39 noise, by opening the muffler cut-out, or other-  
40 wise, or permit any unreasonable amount of  
41 smoke to escape from such vehicle. No person  
42 shall use on or in connection with any motor  
43 vehicle a spot light, so called, the rays from which  
44 shine more than two feet above the road at a  
45 distance of thirty feet from the vehicle, except  
46 that such a spot light may be used for the pur-  
47 pose of reading signs, and as an auxiliary light  
48 in cases of necessity when the other lights re-  
49 quired by law fail to operate.

