

SENATE No. 129

To accompany the petition of Charles A. P. McAree for legislation to require the equipment of certain trucks, buses and other motor vehicles with certain emergency signal lights for the protection of persons and property on the public ways. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act requiring Certain Trucks, Buses and Other Motor Vehicles to be provided with Emergency Signal Lights for the Protection of Persons and Property on the Public Ways.

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 seven of chapter ninety of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter one
3 hundred and nine of the acts of nineteen hundred
4 and thirty-three, is hereby further amended by add-
5 ing at the end thereof the following new paragraph:—
6 Every motor bus, every motor truck with a manu-
7 facturer's rated capacity in excess of two thousand
8 pounds, and every combination of tractor and trailer,
9 when driven or operated on any public way outside
10 a thickly settled or business district of a city or town
11 during the period from one half hour after sunset
12 to one half hour before sunrise, shall be equipped

13 with flares, flaring candles, torches, lanterns or other
14 devices, hereinafter called the emergency lighting
15 equipment, which shall be ready for immediate use,
16 so constructed as to be visible for a distance of not
17 less than two hundred feet and to be capable of
18 burning under all weather conditions. The operator
19 of such bus, truck or combination of trailer and
20 tractor, in the event of disability of the vehicle dur-
21 ing such period, shall immediately cause said emer-
22 gency lighting equipment to be lighted and kept
23 lighted during the period such vehicle remains on
24 the public way in a disabled condition; one to be
25 set at or near the vehicle; one at or about one hun-
26 dred and fifty feet from the rear and one at or about
27 one hundred and fifty feet from the front of the
28 vehicle. Violation of any provision of this para-
29 graph shall be punished by a fine of not more than
30 fifty dollars; and the registrar may suspend, for not
31 more than sixty days, the certificate of registration
32 of any such bus, truck, trailer or tractor not equipped
33 as provided in this paragraph.