

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, June 15, 1936.

*To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:*

The General Laws, in Chapter 90, Section 33, provide that "the registrar may issue certificates of registration for motor vehicles and licenses to operate the same to any member of the foreign diplomatic corps without the payment of the fees therefor." This provision applies to ambassadors and ministers of foreign countries and their suites, but does not apply to foreign consuls.

It is considered desirable by the Department of State at Washington that United States consuls in foreign countries obtain certificates of registration for their motor vehicles, and licenses to operate, without the payment of fees to those countries. For this to be possible, it is necessary for all the states of the Union to grant a reciprocal exemption from such fees with respect to foreign consular officers of those countries in the United States. Forty-five states of the Union now issue registrations and licenses to foreign consuls without requiring the payment of a fee. Massachusetts is one of the three states which at present do not issue such registrations and licenses to foreign consuls without charge.

The Secretary of State of the United States has made a formal request that Massachusetts amend its statutes, in order that American consular officers abroad may obtain their registrations and licenses without charge. I accordingly recommend the enactment of legislation to add foreign consular officers to the exemption which is now granted by the General Laws to foreign diplomats.

JAMES M. CURLEY.

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION

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