

HOUSE No. 114

Accompanying the second recommendation of the State Planning Board (House, No. 111). Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing the Department of Public Works to
Establish Reservations along State Highways.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter eighty-one of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding to the end thereof, under the
3 caption "HIGHWAY RESERVATIONS," the following new
4 section:—

5 *Section 32.* If the department determines that, in
6 order to preserve the safety or usefulness of a high-
7 way for purposes of transportation or to preserve the
8 amenities of travel on a highway, it is necessary to
9 acquire reservations, not exceeding one hundred feet
10 in width, abutting said highway, the department may
11 acquire the same by purchase or gift or may take the
12 same by eminent domain on behalf of the common-
13 wealth under chapter seventy-nine. No owner of
14 land abutting such a reservation shall have any right
15 of access to such highway over such reservation or

16 any right to construct any driveway or other means
17 of access across or in such reservation.

18 The department shall have the exclusive right and
19 power to lay out, alter or discontinue any or all
20 streets, highways and bridges within the borders of
21 such reservations; to landscape the land and rear-
22 range its contours; to so embellish such reservations
23 as to make them available to the use and attractive
24 to the sight of travelers; to grant to any governmental
25 agency licenses or easements for any purpose that
26 does not unduly interfere with the initial purpose of
27 the highway and the reservation; to grant to indi-
28 viduals or corporations licenses or easements to enter
29 upon at designated points or to construct sewers, lay
30 water and gas mains and electric conduits within and
31 across such reservations.

32 For the purpose of this section the department may
33 expend any money that is appropriated for this pur-
34 pose or that is not specifically set aside for some other
35 purpose.