

By Mrs. Holland of Longmeadow, petition of Iris K. Holland and Mary Jeanette Murray relative to establishing a point system for the suspension and revocation of drivers' licenses. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POINT SYSTEM FOR THE SUSPENSIONS AND REVOCATION OF DRIVERS' LICENSES.

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 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
2 after Section 22F, the following sections: —

3 *Section 22G.* In addition to, but not in substitution for, any
4 other provisions of this chapter, the registrar, after notice to the
5 general public, shall put into effect a point system for the suspen-
6 sion or revocation of drivers' licenses issued under this chapter.
7 Points shall be charged against a licensee after conviction of viola-
8 tion of the motor vehicle laws or regulations of the Common-
9 wealth.

10 *Section 22H.* Initial points shall be assessed as follows:

- 11 (a) Any moving violation not listed below and not contributing to
- 12 an accident 1 point
- 13 Speeding in excess of the posted speed limit by 10 miles per hour or
- 14 more 2 points
- 15 Any moving violation contributing more than 50% of the fault to
- 16 an accident 3 points
- 17 Speeding in excess of the posted speed limit by 30 miles per hour or
- 18 more 4 points
- 19 Reckless driving 5 points
- 20 Driving without being licensed 5 points
- 21 Failure to report an accident 5 points
- 22 Driving on a learner's permit unaccompanied 5 points

- 23 Participating in a racing or speed contest on the public
 24 highways 5 points
 25 Turning off lights of a vehicle to avoid identification . . 8 points
 26 Failing to stop after accident resulting in damage to
 27 attended or unattended vehicle or property 8 points
 28 (b) Failing to stop after an accident resulting in injury or
 29 death of any person 12 points
 30 Driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor,
 31 drugs or vapors of chemicals 12 points
 32 Driving after refusal, suspension, cancellation, or
 33 revocation 15 points
 34 Homicide or assault committed by means of a
 35 vehicle 15 points
 36 Any felony involving use of a vehicle 15 points
 37 Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer 15 points
 38 The making of a false affidavit or statement under oath, or falsely
 39 certifying to the truth of any fact or information to the Administra-
 40 tion under this article or under any law relating to the ownership or
 41 operation of motor vehicles 15 points

42 Whenever conviction occurs on multiple charges based on of-
 43 fenses alleged to have been committed at the same time or arising
 44 out of circumstances simultaneous in time and place, points shall be
 45 assessed against the person convicted only on the charge which has
 46 the highest point assessment and shall not be assessed with respect
 47 to the remainder of the multiple charges.

48 *Section 22I.* When any licensee has received three (3) points, the
 49 registrar shall send said licensee a warning letter. Except as pro-
 50 vided in Section 22J of this chapter when any licensee has received
 51 12 points, the registrar shall issue a notice of suspension, and when
 52 any licensee has received 15 points, the registrar shall issue a notice
 53 of revocation.

54 Each said notice shall be personally served or sent by registered
 55 or certified mail, state the duration of the suspension or revocation,
 56 and advise the licensee of his right to request in writing within 10
 57 days after notice is sent by the registrar to the licensee (Saturdays,
 58 Sundays and legal holidays excepted), a hearing before the regis-
 59 trar. Each notice of suspension or revocation shall be effective
 60 beginning 10 days after the notice is forwarded to the licensee,
 61 unless a hearing is requested as provided above. The duration of

62 the initial suspension shall not be less than 2 days nor more than 30
63 days, and the duration of any subsequent suspension shall be for
64 not less than 15 days and not more than 90 days.

65 The registrar shall, in addition to the provisions of this section,
66 establish a program for driver improvement for licensees receiving
67 nine (9) or more points. Said program may include group meetings,
68 individual conferences or other such activities as may be effective.

69 *Section 22J.* With the exception of convictions of violations of
70 any of the offenses listed in subsection (b) of Section 22H, if a
71 licensee is required to drive a motor vehicle in the course of his
72 regular employment, the notice of suspension provided for in
73 Section 22I requires 18 points and the notice of revocation requires
74 21 points.

75 *Section 22K.* No points assessed hereunder shall be retained for
76 more than 3 years after their assessment.

77 *Section 22L.* Persons whose licenses are suspended or revoked
78 pursuant to this part shall have the right of appeal to the registrar.

1. The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the train was the cold. It was a sharp, biting cold that seemed to penetrate my coat and reach my bones. I shivered involuntarily as I walked towards the station entrance. The air was thick with a heavy mist that obscured the buildings and the people around me. I felt a sense of isolation and loneliness as I navigated the unfamiliar streets of the city. The sound of my boots on the wet pavement was the only sound I could hear, a rhythmic tapping that echoed in my ears. I looked around, trying to make sense of the scene before me. The buildings were tall and imposing, their windows reflecting the dim light of the overcast sky. The streets were wide and empty, with only a few people walking in the distance. I felt a sense of awe and wonder as I took in the sights and sounds of this new place. The cold continued to bite at me, but I pushed forward, determined to explore this new world. I walked for what felt like hours, my feet growing numb from the cold and the wet pavement. I finally reached a large, ornate building that I recognized as the hotel where I was staying. I took a deep breath, feeling a sense of relief and accomplishment. I had made it. I had arrived in the city. I looked back over my shoulder, watching the misty streets disappear behind me. I felt a sense of adventure and excitement as I stepped into the unknown. The cold was still there, but it no longer bothered me. I was here. I was home.