

HOUSE No. 1324

By Mr. Nickinello of Natick, petition of Robert J. Irwin, Louis R. Nickinello and others relative to granting the Department of Public Utilities authority to license sightseeing buses. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT GIVING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AUTHORITY TO LICENSE SIGHTSEEING BUSES.

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

1 Appendix to Chapter 159A of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out Section 1-5 and inserting in place thereof
3 the following section: —

4 1-5. Certificate of public convenience and necessity; department
5 of public utilities; licensing of sightseeing buses; powers.

6 No persons or corporation shall offer or furnish service by
7 sightseeing buses which carry 12 or more passengers for hire in
8 interstate or intrastate commerce unless said person or corporation
9 has obtained from the department of public utilities a certificate
10 declaring that public convenience and necessity require such oper-
11 ation. Said department may after public hearing issue or refuse to
12 issue such a certificate and may attach to the exercise of the
13 privilege conferred by said certificate such terms and conditions as
14 to operation and fares as the said department may deem that public
15 convenience and necessity require.

16 The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities will have sole
17 responsibility for sightseeing licenses.

18 All vehicles certificated by the DPU for sightseeing registered in
19 Massachusetts shall have a permit for such affixed to the lower left

20 corner of the front door window easily seen by an inspector or
21 Police Officer. Such permits shall be issued annually by the DPU
22 for a calendar year.

23 All buses registered out of state and engaged in sightseeing in this
24 state shall be required to obtain a permit from the DPU on a per
25 trip basis. Such out-of-state buses shall employ the services of a
26 local guide licensed by the DPU while engaged in sightseeing. The
27 permit must be prominently displayed in windshield. All local
28 guides must be employed by certificated carriers and be licensed by
29 the DPU. The DPU shall conduct tests for the various localities
30 and areas to determine the knowledge of the guide in the topo-
31 graphy, history and landmarks of the area. Guides are to be
32 periodically inspected by the DPU for any lapses in new material.

33 The DPU shall charge suitable fees for all permits and tests.

34 Intra-state permit 250.00 per coach per year

35 Inter-state permit 25.00 per coach per year

36 Guide license 10.00 per year

37 Guide test 10.00 per test

38 Violations to be fined: Unlicensed coach — \$500.00

39 Unlicensed guide — \$500.00

40 All currently certificated carriers and their employees to be
41 automatically permitted by the DPU upon passage of this legisla-
42 tion.