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sion thereof for the convenience of the traveling public shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars. One-half of any fine paid into a court shall be paid over to the city or town where said offense occurred.

Approved May 31, 1983.

Chap. 145. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING TESTIMONY IN CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING THE PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 233 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 20, as most recently amended by section 3 of chapter 765 of the acts of 1963, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 20. Any person of sufficient understanding, although a party, may testify in any proceeding, civil or criminal, in court or before a person who has authority to receive evidence, except as follows:

First, Except in a proceeding arising out of or involving a contract made by a married woman with her husband and except in a proceeding under chapter two hundred and seventy-three A and in a prosecution begun under sections one to ten, inclusive, of chapter two hundred and seventy-three, neither husband nor wife shall testify as to private conversations with the other;

Second, Except as otherwise provided in section seven of chapter two hundred and seventy-three and except in any proceeding relating to child abuse, including incest, neither husband nor wife shall be compelled to testify in the trial of an indictment, complaint or other criminal proceeding against the other;

Third, The defendant in the trial of an indictment, complaint or other criminal proceeding shall, at his own request, but not otherwise, be allowed to testify; but his neglect or refusal to testify shall not create any presumption against him.

Approved May 31, 1983.

Chap. 146. AN ACT RELATIVE TO MOTOR VEHICLES PROPULSED BY SPECIAL FUELS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The fourth paragraph of section 2 of chapter 64E

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of the General Laws, as amended by section 1 of chapter 544 of the acts of 1980, is hereby further amended by adding the following four sentences:- Whoever violates the provisions of this paragraph shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars. Any person charged with such a violation may, in writing without his presence in court, waive his right to trial, plead guilty and pay the maximum statutory penalty. Such waiver of the right to trial and plea of guilty shall be made on a form approved by the administrative justice of the district court department and shall be provided to each defendant by the appropriate division of the court department at the same time and in the same manner as the issuance of any summons. Any person who desires to waive his right to trial and to plead guilty without his appearance in court shall return such written waiver and plea together with payment of the maximum statutory penalty before the return day of such summons.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 64E is hereby further amended by striking out section 11, as most recently amended by section 66 of chapter 415 of the acts of 1976, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 11. Any person who violates any provisions of this chapter, for which a penalty is not otherwise provided, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for one year, or both.

Approved May 31, 1983.

Chap. 147. AN ACT FURTHER DEFINING THE TERM "PROPERTY" IN THE CRIME OF LARCENY.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 30 of chapter 266 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (2), as most recently amended by section 3 of chapter 979 of the acts of 1977, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

(2) The term "property", as used in this section, shall include money, personal chattels, a bank note, bond, promissory note, bill of exchange or other bill, order or certificate, a book of accounts for or concerning money or goods due or to become due or to be delivered, a deed or writing containing a conveyance of land, any valuable contract in force, a receipt, release or defeasance, a writ, process, certificate of title or duplicate certificate issued under chapter one hundred and eighty-five, a public record, anything which is of the realty or is annexed thereto, a