

By Mr. Finnegan of Boston (by request), petition of Clarence W. Rowley for the appointment of additional members of the Division of State Police and to provide that a certain number of them be assigned by the Commissioner of Public Safety to work under the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Nine.

An Act to provide for the Appointment of Additional State Police to prevent the Needless Killing or Injury of Persons by Motor Vehicles; to make the Roads safe for Travel; to enforce the Motor Vehicle Traffic and Road Laws and to provide for the Payment thereof by Owners of Motor Vehicles.

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

1 SECTION 1. The commissioner of public
2 safety with the approval of the governor may
3 make additional appointments not exceeding
4 three hundred in addition to the number now
5 authorized by law to the division of state police,
6 under the provisions of section nine A of
7 chapter twenty-two of the General Laws, to-
8 gether with such additional employees as the
9 governor may deem necessary.

1 SECTION 2. The commissioner of public
2 safety may delegate to the registrar of motor
3 vehicles, for the investigation of accidents re-
4 sulting in death or personal injury, and all
5 other violations of motor vehicle laws or traffic
6 laws, such number of state police officers as he
7 may deem necessary, to work under the direc-
8 tion of the registrar, for the investigation of all
9 motor vehicle accidents, and for the enforce-
10 ment of all motor vehicle and traffic laws and
11 regulations.

1 SECTION 3. State police officers employed
2 under the direction of the commissioner of
3 public safety or the registrar of motor vehicles
4 in the investigation of fatal and other accidents
5 and violations of motor vehicle laws, shall be
6 entitled to receive pay at the rate of three thou-
7 sand per year, together with all necessary ex-
8 penses. They may or may not wear uniforms,
9 as the commissioner shall direct. They shall
10 perform such duties as the commissioner of
11 public safety, or upon authority delegated by
12 him, the registrar of motor vehicles may direct.

1 SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the state
2 police, under the direction of the commissioner
3 or registrar, to keep the roads free from motor
4 vehicles operated by persons under the in-
5 fluence of liquor, reckless drivers, drivers who
6 endanger the lives and safety of the public, and
7 drivers who wilfully and frequently violate

8 motor vehicle laws, the laws of the road, traffic
9 regulations, or other laws which are intended
10 for the safety and convenience of travelers.
11 They shall investigate each accident and secure
12 all obtainable evidence tending to fix the blame
13 and shall take all necessary proceedings in
14 court, under the direction of the commissioner
15 or the registrar against every person found
16 operating a motor vehicle under the influence
17 of liquor, or recklessly, or so as to endanger the
18 lives or safety of the public, or who for any
19 other reason is likely through the operation of
20 a motor vehicle to cause injury or death.

1 SECTION 5. In order to pay the expense of
2 the additional state police to be appointed
3 to make the roads safe for travel, there shall
4 be paid to the commonwealth the sum of one
5 dollar for every motor vehicle registered,
6 which amount shall be paid, by the person
7 registering such motor vehicle, to the registrar
8 of motor vehicles, who shall pay the same to
9 the state treasurer. Such payments shall be
10 made for the year nineteen hundred and
11 twenty-nine on or before July first, nineteen
12 hundred and twenty-nine, and any person hav-
13 ing registered a motor vehicle who fails to
14 make such payment before July first, nineteen
15 hundred and twenty-nine, shall be notified by
16 the registrar, and in case payment is not made
17 within thirty days after such notice his regis-
18 tration shall be suspended until such payment

19 is made; and there shall be paid in each year
20 after nineteen hundred and twenty-nine by
21 every registrant of a motor vehicle the sum of
22 one dollar in addition to the registration fee
23 for the purposes heretofore set forth. The
24 monies paid under this section are hereby
25 appropriated toward the expense of such addi-
26 tional state police for the purpose of accident
27 prevention.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon
2 its passage.