

By Mr. Thomson of Swampscott, petition of the Associated Safety Councils of Massachusetts that unlicensed persons learning to drive motor vehicles be required to obtain a learner's permit from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A LEARNER'S PERMIT FOR UNLICENSED DRIVERS
LEARNING TO DRIVE.

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 10 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as most recently
2 amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the words
3 "but this section shall not prevent the operation of motor vehicles
4 by unlicensed persons if riding with or accompanied by a licensed
5 operator, excepting only persons who have been licensed and
6 whose licenses are not in force because of revocation or suspen-
7 sion, persons whose right to operate is suspended by the registrar,
8 and persons less than sixteen years of age; but such licensed
9 operator shall be liable for the violation of any provision of this
10 chapter, or of any regulation made in accordance herewith,
11 committed by such unlicensed operator; provided, that the
12 examiners of operators, in the employ of the registrar, when
13 engaged in their official duty, shall not be liable for the acts of
14 any person who is being examined."

15 Section 10 of chapter 90 is further amended by inserting after
16 the words "unless licensed" in line 1 the following words, —
17 or possessing a valid instruction permit.

18 Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by insert-
19 ing after section 8 the following section: —

20 *Section 8A.* Any person who is at least sixteen years of age
21 may apply to the registrar for an instruction permit. The

22 registrar in his discretion, after the applicant has successfully
23 passed all parts of the examination other than the driving test,
24 issue to the applicant an instruction permit which shall entitle
25 the applicant, while having such permit in his immediate pos-
26 session, to drive a motor vehicle upon the public highways for a
27 period of sixty days when accompanied by a licensed operator
28 who has had at least one year of driving experience and who is
29 occupying a seat beside the driver, excepting only persons who
30 have been licensed and whose licenses are not in force because of
31 revocation or suspension, persons whose right to operate is sus-
32 pended by the registrar, and persons less than sixteen years of
33 age; but such licensed operator shall be liable for the violation
34 of any provision of this chapter, or of any regulation made in
35 accordance herewith, committed by such unlicensed operator;
36 provided, that the examiners of operators in the employ of the
37 registrar, when engaged in their official duty, shall not be liable
38 for the acts of any person who is being examined. Any such
39 instruction permit may be renewed or a new permit issued for an
40 additional period of ninety days. The registrar upon receiving
41 proper application may in his discretion issue a restricted in-
42 struction permit effective for a school year or for a more restricted
43 period to an applicant who is enrolled in a driver-education
44 program which includes practice driving and which is approved
45 by the registrar. Such instruction permit shall entitle the per-
46 mittee when he has such permit in his immediate possession to
47 operate a motor vehicle only on a designated highway or within
48 a designated area but only when an approved instructor is
49 occupying a seat beside the permittee. Every application for an
50 instruction permit shall be made upon a form furnished by the
51 registrar. Every application shall be accompanied by the proper
52 fee and payment of such fee shall entitle the applicant to not
53 more than three attempts to pass the examination within a
54 period of six months from the date of application.

55 Section 33 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as most recently
56 amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after "The
57 registrar or his authorized agents shall collect fees as follows":
58 the following words:— for the instruction permit, one dollar.