

HOUSE No. 645.

[Bill accompanying the petition of A. C. Collins for legislation to regulate the speed at which automobiles and other motor vehicles may be run upon streets and highways and in other public places Roads and Bridges. January 31.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two.

AN ACT

To regulate the Speed and Operation of Automobiles
and Motor Vehicles on Highways.

*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. No automobile or motor vehicle
2 shall be run on any public way outside the limits
3 of a city or fire district at a speed exceeding fifteen
4 miles an hour, and no such vehicle shall be run
5 on any public way within the limits of any city or
6 fire district at a rate exceeding ten miles an hour
7 and no such vehicle shall be run on any public
8 way, park way or drive way at any speed greater

9 than is reasonable and proper, having regard to
10 the traffic and use of the way, or so as to endanger
11 the life or limb of any person.

1 SECTION 2. The selectmen of any town may
2 prescribe that automobiles and motor vehicles
3 shall not be run at a speed exceeding ten miles an
4 hour on any public way in the business district or
5 in any thickly settled district of their town: *pro-*
6 *vided*, that proper notice of such regulation and
7 of the way, or part of a way, to which such regula-
8 tion applies is given by posters or signs conspicu-
9 ously placed at the beginning and at the end of
10 the way, or part of a way, to which the regula-
11 tion applies.

1 SECTION 3. Upon approaching a crossing of
2 intersecting ways, the person in control of such
3 vehicle shall so run it that a stop may easily be
4 made, if necessary, and shall traverse the crossing
5 or intersection at a reduced rate of speed.

1 SECTION 4. Upon meeting any vehicle drawn
2 by a horse, if the horse drawing such vehicle
3 appears to be frightened, the person in charge of
4 the motor vehicle shall bring it to a stop, and
5 shall keep it stationary until the horse has passed
6 the motor vehicle, or until the danger has other-
7 wise been avoided.

1 SECTION 5. If, when a motor vehicle is about
2 to pass a vehicle drawn by a horse going in the

3 same direction as the motor vehicle, or is close
4 behind the same, the horse appears to be fright-
5 ened, the person in control of the motor vehicle
6 shall reduce its speed, or bring it to a stop, until
7 the danger has been avoided.

1 SECTION 6. The term "motor vehicle" in this
2 act shall include all vehicles propelled by any
3 power other than muscular power, excepting rail-
4 road and railway cars and other motor vehicles
5 running only upon rails or tracks.

1 SECTION 7. Any person violating any pro-
2 vision of this act shall be fined not more than
3 two hundred dollars for each offence.

