

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 5554

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 25, 1972.

The committee on Public Safety, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 399) of Arthur L. Desrocher that cities and towns be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations prohibiting hitchhiking; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3595) of John Floyd and Daniel C. Towse for legislation to prohibit the solicitation of rides on certain highways; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3783) of Belden G. Bly, Jr., for legislation to prohibit the solicitation of rides on certain highways; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3967) of Timothy W. Hickey that cities and towns be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations prohibiting hitchhiking; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5175) of Richard E. McLaughlin (Secretary of Public Safety), John F. Kehoe, Jr., (Commissioner of Public Safety), Arthur J. McKenna, James L. Grimaldi, John F. Coffey, Rudy Chmura and John P. O'Brien for legislation to prohibit the solicitation of rides on certain highways, report recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 5554) ought to pass [Representative Ahearn of Norwood dissenting].

For the committee,

**RALPH E. SIRIANNI, JR.**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SOLICITATION OF RIDES ON CERTAIN 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 Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after section 18A the following section: —  
3 *Section 18B.* Whoever, for the purpose of soliciting a ride on  
4 a limited access or express highway or where such pedestrian or  
5 foot traffic has been posted as being prohibited, displays a sign,  
6 signals a moving vehicle, or causes the stopping of a vehicle, shall  
7 be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars, and any  
8 operator of a vehicle who stops his vehicle to provide said ride,  
9 except in case of actual emergency, may be punished by a fine of  
10 not more than fifty dollars. Any person who, upon such request  
11 by a law enforcement officer refuses to state his name and  
12 address, or states a false name and address or a name and address  
13 which is not his name and address in ordinary use, or refuses to  
14 leave such limited access or express highway or where such  
15 pedestrian or foot traffic has been posted as being prohibited  
16 after having been requested to do so by such officer may be  
17 arrested without a warrant and be kept in custody for not more  
18 than twenty-four hours, Sundays and legal holidays excepted,  
19 until he can be taken before a court or trial justice having  
20 jurisdiction of such offense.