

HOUSE No. 547

By Mr. Pressman of Chelsea, petition of Meyer Pressman relative to establishing a merit-rating system for fixing premiums for compulsory motor vehicle liability insurance. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MERIT-RATING SYSTEM FOR FIXING PREMIUMS FOR COMPULSORY MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE.

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

1 Notwithstanding any contrary provision of gen-
2 eral or special law, the commissioner of insurance is
3 hereby authorized, empowered and directed to es-
4 tablish a new and revised system for fixing premiums
5 for compulsory motor vehicle liability insurance, said
6 system to be based upon a merit-rating of each in-
7 dividual registered motor vehicle owner. Said system
8 shall classify all such owners into four classes, de-
9 pending upon the accident-experience of motor ve-
10 hicles registered to them during the preceeding five
11 years, and shall provide for a sliding scale of premium
12 rates, to the end that an owner of an accident-free
13 motor vehicle shall pay a lower premium for com-
14 pulsory insurance protection than owners of motor

15 vehicles involved in one or more accidents during
16 such period. There shall be established, within the
17 department of insurance, a state premium rating
18 board, consisting of five persons, of which the com-
19 missioner shall be a member and the chairman, who
20 shall keep and study accident records of all motor
21 vehicles registered to such owners, correlate the same
22 annually, make said classifications of registered
23 owners, and supervise the functioning of said system.
24 Any person aggrieved by the classification as-
25 signed to him by said board may appeal, within ten
26 days of notice to him of the same, to the superior
27 court sitting in the county of his residence, which said
28 court, after hearing, may order his classification
29 changed by said board.