

HOUSE No. 2805

Mr. Markley of Springfield moves that this bill be substituted for a Bill requiring the registration of bicycles and further regulating their operation (House, No. 2662, amended). July 25.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES AND CERTAIN OTHER 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. Chapter eighty-five of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
3 eleven, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition,
4 the following new section: —

5 *Section 11A.* No resident of any city which ac-
6 cepts this section by vote of its city council or of
7 any town which accepts this section by vote of the
8 town shall operate a bicycle within the limits thereof,
9 unless such bicycle is registered under this section in
10 such city or town and unless the registration plate
11 issued therefor is attached to such bicycle. The police
12 department of such a city or town, or the selectmen
13 of such a town having no organized police depart-
14 ment, shall register all bicycles owned by persons
15 residing within the city or town and issue to the owners

16 thereof certificates of registration, which shall be in
17 effect, unless suspended as hereinafter provided, so
18 long as such registrants own said bicycles. The ap-
19 plication for registration shall contain the name, ad-
20 dress and age of the owner, the make of the bicycle,
21 and serial number, if any, affixed by the maker, or
22 any other identifying marks. The certificate of regis-
23 tration shall contain the name and address of the
24 owner, a description of the bicycle and a register
25 number. Every bicycle so registered shall have at-
26 tached thereto a registration plate furnished by the
27 police department or the selectmen, as the case may
28 be, of the city or town where registered. Such plate
29 shall bear the register number assigned to the bicycle
30 and the name of the city or town where registered.
31 Upon the sale or other transfer of a registered bicycle,
32 the registrant shall remove the registration plate and
33 surrender the same to the police department or the
34 selectmen, as the case may be, or may, upon appli-
35 cation but without payment of an additional fee,
36 have said plate assigned to another bicycle owned
37 by the applicant. A bicycle rental agency in any
38 such city or town shall not rent or offer any bicycle
39 for rent unless the bicycle is registered and a license
40 plate is attached thereto as provided herein. Every
41 person engaged in the business of buying or selling
42 new or second hand bicycles in such a city or town
43 shall make a report to the said police department
44 or selectmen, as the case may be, of every bicycle
45 purchased or sold by such dealer, giving the name and
46 address of the person from whom purchased or to
47 whom sold, a description of such bicycle by name or
48 make, and the number of the registration plate, if
49 any, attached thereto. Blank forms of applications

50 and certificates for use in carrying out the provisions
51 of this section shall be prepared and furnished by the
52 commissioner of public safety to all such cities and
53 towns at their expense. Every bicycle shall be
54 equipped with a red reflector visible from the rear
55 and at least two inches in diameter. A fee of not
56 more than twenty-five cents shall be collected for
57 each registration plate and certificate issued under
58 this section.

59 In such cities and towns, operators of bicycles shall
60 conform to traffic rules and regulations so far as
61 they are obviously and reasonably applicable for their
62 own safety. No operator of a bicycle shall permit
63 any person in excess of the number for which such
64 bicycle is designed and equipped to ride thereon with
65 him, and no operator of a bicycle shall permit it to
66 be drawn by any other moving vehicle. The police
67 department of such a city or town, or the selectmen
68 of such a town having no organized police depart-
69 ment, may suspend the registration certificate of any
70 bicycle issued by it and may impound for a period of
71 not more than fifteen days any bicycle registered by
72 it, for a violation of any provision of this section,
73 and may impound for such a period any bicycle which
74 is operated in such city or town without having been
75 registered. This section shall apply only to a bicycle
76 at least one wheel of which exceeds twenty inches in
77 diameter.

1 SECTION 2. Sections twelve, thirteen and fourteen
2 of said chapter eighty-five, as so appearing, are hereby
3 repealed.

