

By Mr. Nordberg of Reading, petition of Nils L. Nordberg for legislation to restrict the limitations of a junior operator's license to operate motor vehicles. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT FURTHER RESTRICTING THE LIMITATIONS OF A JUNIOR OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO OPERATE MOTOR 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 90 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out the first five sentences of section 8
3 thereof, as amended by chapter 601 of the acts of 1967, and
4 inserting in place thereof the following: —

5 Application for a license to operate motor vehicles may be
6 made by any person except a person who has been licensed
7 and whose license is not in force because of revocation or
8 suspension or whose right to operate is suspended by the
9 registrar; but before such a license is granted the applicant shall
10 pass such examination as to his qualifications as the registrar
11 shall require, and no license shall be issued until the registrar or
12 his authorized agent is satisfied that the applicant is a proper
13 person to receive it and, except as hereinafter provided, no
14 such license shall be issued to any person under eighteen years
15 of age.

16 A junior operator's license may be issued to a minor under
17 eighteen years of age who has attained age seventeen and such
18 license may be issued to a person under seventeen years of age
19 if he is at least sixteen years of age and has successfully
20 completed a driver education and training course approved by
21 the registrar. Such license shall not entitle a licensee under
22 eighteen years of age to operate a motor vehicle other than
23 going to and from school, during the hours of darkness unless
24 accompanied by a parent, guardian, or one in a position of

25 loco parentis to the licensee. The extent to which a holder of a
26 junior operator's license may operate a motor vehicle there-
27 under shall be printed on each such license and any holder of
28 such a license who operates a motor vehicle otherwise than as
29 indicated on his license shall be deemed to be operating a
30 motor vehicle without being duly licensed under this chapter.
31 The registrar shall prescribe the form of application for the
32 junior operator's license, and each applicant shall submit with
33 his application, (a) a birth, baptismal or school certificate of,
34 such other satisfactory evidence of his age as the registrar may
35 require, and (b) a duly acknowledged consent of the applicant's
36 parent or guardian to the issuance of such license. Upon receipt
37 of a withdrawal of consent, duly acknowledged by the parent
38 or guardian who executed the consent on the basis of which a
39 junior operator's license was issued, the commissioner shall,
40 provided the licensee has not reached the age of eighteen years,
41 revoke such junior operator's license.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby
2 further amended by striking out the second paragraph of sec-
3 tion 8B thereof and inserting in place thereof the following: -
4 If the applicant is under eighteen years of age, said learner's
5 permit shall not entitle him to operate a motor vehicle during
6 the hours of darkness unless accompanied by a parent, guard-
7 ian, or one in a position of loco parentis to the licensee who is
8 a licensed operator with at least one year of driving experience
9 and whose license or right to operate is not revoked or sus-
10 pended.