

To accompany the petition of Allan G. Lamson for legislation to authorize motor vehicles to be equipped with diffusing and non-focusing reflectors. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Six.

An Act authorizing Motor Vehicles to be equipped with Diffusing and Non-Focusing Reflectors.

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 seven of chapter ninety of the General
2 Laws, as amended by chapters one hundred and
3 eighty-nine, four hundred and thirty-four and
4 four hundred and eighty-three of the acts of nine-
5 teen hundred and twenty-one, by section two of
6 chapter three hundred and forty-two of the acts
7 of nineteen hundred and twenty-two and by
8 chapter three hundred and thirty-five of the acts
9 of nineteen hundred and twenty-three, is hereby
10 further amended by inserting after the word
11 "rays" in the fortieth line the following: — , or
12 with a diffusing and non-focusing reflector, — so
13 as to read as follows: — *Section 7.* Every motor
14 motor vehicle of more than ten horse power
15 operated in or on any way shall be provided with
16 at least two brakes, powerful in action and sepa-
17 rated from each other, of which one brake shall

18 act directly on the driving wheels or on parts of
19 the mechanism which are firmly connected with
20 said wheels. Each of the two brakes shall suffice
21 alone to stop the motor vehicle within a proper
22 distance. One of the two brakes shall be so ar-
23 ranged as to be operated with the foot. Every
24 automobile of not more than ten horse power and
25 every motor cycle shall be provided with at least
26 one brake. Every motor vehicle so operated shall
27 be provided with a muffler or other suitable device
28 to prevent unnecessary noise and with a suitable
29 bell, horn or other means of signalling, and with
30 suitable lamps; and automobiles shall be pro-
31 vided with a lock, a ratchet brake which can be
32 set, a key or other device to prevent such vehicle
33 from being set in motion by unauthorized persons,
34 or otherwise, contrary to the will of the owner or
35 person in charge thereof. Every automobile op-
36 erated during the period from one half an hour
37 after sunset to one half an hour before sunrise
38 shall display at least two white lights, or lights
39 of yellow or amber tint, or, if parked within the
40 limits of a way, one white light on the side of the
41 automobile nearer the centre of the way, and
42 every motor cycle so operated at least one white
43 light or light of yellow or amber tint, and every
44 such motor cycle with a side-car attached, in
45 addition, one such light on the front of the side-
46 car, and every motor truck, trailer and commer-
47 cial motor vehicle used solely as such, having a
48 carrying capacity of three tons or over, in addi-
49 tion, a green light attached to the extreme left of

50 the front of such vehicle, so attached and adjusted
51 as to indicate the extreme left lateral extension
52 of the vehicle or load, which shall in all cases
53 aforesaid be visible not less than two hundred
54 feet in the direction toward which the vehicle is
55 proceeding or facing; and every such motor ve-
56 hicle shall display at least one red light in the
57 reverse direction. Every automobile so operated
58 shall have a rear light so placed as to show a red
59 light from behind and a white light so arranged as
60 to illuminate and not obscure the rear register
61 number. No head-lamp shall be used upon any
62 motor vehicle so operated unless such lamp is
63 equipped with a lens or other device, approved by
64 the registrar, designed to prevent glaring rays,
65 or with a diffusing and non-focusing reflector.
66 No rear lamp shall be used upon any motor ve-
67 hicle so operated unless approved by the regis-
68 trar. Application for the approval of a lens, or
69 other device, or of a rear lamp, accompanied by
70 a fee of fifty dollars, may be made to the registrar
71 by any manufacturer thereof or dealer therein.
72 Every automobile used for the carriage of passen-
73 gers for hire, and every commercial motor vehicle
74 or motor truck, so constructed, equipped or
75 loaded that the person operating the same is
76 prevented from having a constantly free and un-
77 obstructed view of the highway immediately in
78 the rear, shall have attached to the vehicle a
79 mirror or reflector so placed and adjusted as to
80 afford the operator a clear, reflected view of the
81 highway in the rear of the vehicle.

