

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3510**

By Mr. Hill of Ipswich, petition of Bradford Hill relative to motorists approaching tow trucks. Transportation.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MOTORISTS APPROACHING TOW TRUCKS.

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

1 By adding Section 7C and Section 7D to Chapter 89 of the  
2 General Laws as follows:—

3 Section 7C. Motorists failing to exercise caution while  
4 approaching tow trucks flashing amber lights will be fined in the  
5 amount of at least \$500. Motorists whose negligent actions result in  
6 an injury to tow truck operators and/or the stranded motorists they  
7 are assisting could face up to two years in jail and a fine of not less  
8 than \$1,000.

9 Section 7D. Upon approaching an emergency vehicle displaying  
10 red, blue or white flashing lights, or a tow truck, transporter truck, or  
11 other roadside assistance vehicles displaying flashing amber lights  
12 that is parked or stopped on or next to a street or highway having  
13 more than two lanes in the same direction, the driver of a vehicle  
14 shall safely vacate the lane closest to the emergency or roadside  
15 assistance vehicle and proceeding with caution, yielding the right-of-  
16 way by moving into a lane not adjacent to that of the emergency  
17 vehicle so as to leave a full lane vacant between the driver and any  
18 lane in which the emergency or other roadside assistance vehicle is  
19 completely or partially parked, if safety and traffic conditions  
20 permit, or except where otherwise directed by a law enforcement  
21 officer. The driver of every vehicle shall proceed with due caution,  
22 maintaining a speed that is ten (10) miles per hour less than the  
23 posted speed limit when the posted speed is twenty-five (25) miles  
24 per hour or greater in the presence of emergency or other roadside

25 assistance vehicles displaying flashing red, blue, white or amber  
26 lights. Violations of this section will be subject to fines as described  
27 in Section 7C above.