

HOUSE No. 3529

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to traffic signal control devices. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	Elizabeth A. Poirier
Mary S. Rogeness	Karyn E. Polito
George N. Peterson, Jr.	Richard J. Ross
John A. Lepper	Susan Williams Gifford
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	Paul J. P. Loscocco
Paul K. Frost	Donald F. Humason, Jr.
Robert S. Hargraves	Todd M. Smola

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL DEVICES.

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

- 1 Chapter 89 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
- 2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 7B the
- 3 following new section:—
- 4 Section 7C. (a) No person shall possess, use, or attempt to use any
- 5 device designed or intended to change, disrupt, alter, interfere, or
- 6 otherwise influence the operation of a traffic signal. The registrar of
- 7 motor vehicles shall compile and maintain a non-exclusive list of
- 8 traffic signal control devices that are prohibited under this section.
- 9 (1) A person found in possession of such a traffic signal control
- 10 device while not in a motor vehicle shall be punished by a fine of
- 11 not more \$125 dollars for a first offense and a fine of not more than
- 12 \$250 for second and subsequent offenses.
- 13 (2) A person found in possession of such a traffic signal control
- 14 device while in a motor vehicle shall be punished by a fine of not
- 15 more than \$250 for a first offense and a fine of not more than \$500
- 16 for second and subsequent offenses.

17 (3) A person convicted of using or attempting to use such a traffic
18 signal control device shall be punished by a fine of not more than
19 \$500 for a first offense and a fine of not more than \$1000 for second
20 and subsequent offenses.

21 (4) If a person's use of such a traffic signal control device results
22 in property damage or bodily injury, that person shall be punished by
23 a fine of not more than \$1500 for a first offense and a fine of not
24 more than \$3000 for second and subsequent offenses.

25 (b) This section shall not apply to:—

26 (1) Federal, state, or local law enforcement personnel while in the
27 course of their official duties.

28 (2) Firefighters while in the course of their official duties.

29 (3) Emergency medical services personnel while in the course of
30 their official duties.

31 (4) State or municipal department of transportation or highway
32 personnel while in the course of their official duties.

33 (c) The exemptions set forth in the provisions of subsection (b)
34 shall only apply to such personnel when they are operating licensed
35 ambulances, licensed fire apparatus, or government-owned vehicles.