

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2272**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Mark C. Montigny***

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the use of video screens while operating a motor vehicle.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Mark C. Montigny*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Bristol and Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2272**

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2272) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation relative to the use of video screens while operating a motor vehicle. Transportation.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 2356 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to the use of video screens while operating a motor vehicle.

*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. Section 13 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out in lines 27-31 the following words:-

3           No person shall drive any motor vehicle equipped with any television viewer, screen or  
4 other means of visually receiving a television broadcast which is located in the motor vehicle at  
5 any point forward of the back of the driver’s seat, or which is visible to the driver while  
6 operating such motor vehicle.

7           SECTION 2. Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
8 adding the following section:-

9           Section 13D.

10           (a)     No motor vehicle registered in the commonwealth shall be equipped with, nor  
11 shall be used therein, a television receiver, video monitor, or a television or video screen, or any  
12 other similar means of visually displaying a television broadcast or video signal that produces  
13 entertainment or business applications, is operating and is located in the motor vehicle at a point  
14 forward of the back of the driver’s seat, or is operating and the monitor, screen, or display is  
15 visible to the driver while driving the motor vehicle. The operator of a motor vehicle that is not  
16 required to be registered in the commonwealth shall not operate a television receiver, video  
17 monitor, or a television or video screen or any other similar means of visually displaying a  
18 television broadcast or video signal that produces entertainment or business applications that  
19 violates the provisions of this section while driving in the commonwealth.

20           The prohibitions contained in this subsection shall not, however, include:

- 21           1.     Electronic displays used in conjunction with vehicle navigation and mapping  
22 systems, or as part of a digital dispatch system;
- 23           2.     Closed circuit video monitors designed to operate only in conjunction with  
24 dedicated video cameras and used in rear-view systems on trucks, motor homes, and other motor  
25 vehicles;
- 26           3.     Television receivers or monitors used in government-owned vehicles by law-  
27 enforcement officers in the course of their official duties;
- 28           4.     Visual displays used to enhance or supplement the driver’s view forward, behind,  
29 or to the sides of a motor vehicle for the purpose of maneuvering the vehicle;
- 30           5.     A vehicle information display;

31           6.     A visual display used to enhance or supplement a driver’s view of vehicle  
32 occupants;

33           7.     Television-type receiving equipment used exclusively for safety or traffic  
34 engineering information; or

35           8.     A television receiver, video monitor, television or video screen, or any other  
36 similar means of visually displaying a moving image, if that equipment is factory-installed and  
37 has an interlock device that, when the motor vehicle operator is performing one or more driving  
38 tasks, disables the equipment so that such moving images are not visible to the motor vehicle  
39 operator except as a visual display described in subsections 1 through 7. For the purposes of this  
40 subsection, “driving task” means all of the real time functions required to operate a vehicle in on-  
41 road traffic, excluding the selection of destinations and waypoints, and including steering,  
42 turning, lane keeping and lane changing, accelerating and decelerating.

43           (b)    Except for displays explicitly authorized in subsection b, no driver of any motor  
44 vehicle shall view any motion picture or similar video display while driving.