

HOUSE No. 4871

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Ten

An Act relative to the registration and inspection of street rods and custom 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, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 2G the following section:-

3 Section 2H. (a) For purposes of this section and section 33, the following terms shall,
4 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

5 “Custom vehicle”, a motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is after 1948, for
6 which the model year is at least 25 years old and that has been altered from the manufacturer’s
7 original design or has a body constructed from non-original materials.

8 “Model year” or “year of manufacture”, the model year indicated on a motor vehicle’s
9 certificate of origin or, if there is no such certificate, the model year the body of such vehicle
10 resembles.

11 “Replica vehicle”, a motor vehicle constructed or assembled by a non-manufacturer from
12 new or used parts that when assembled replicates an earlier year, make and model vehicle.

13 “Specially constructed vehicle”, a motor vehicle reconstructed or assembled by a non-
14 manufacturer from new or used parts that has an exterior that does not replicate or resemble any
15 other manufactured vehicle.

16 “Street rod”, a motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is prior to 1949, and
17 which has been altered from the manufacturer’s original design or has a body constructed from
18 non-original materials.

19 (b) The issuance of certificates of registration and number plates for street rods, replicas,
20 specially constructed vehicles and custom vehicles shall be in accordance with this section.

21 (c) Street rods, replicas, specially constructed vehicles and custom vehicles shall not be
22 considered antique motor cars and shall not be eligible for registration pursuant to section 6A.

23 (d) Replica vehicles shall be titled as the year in which the vehicle was built and the
24 make, model and year of the vehicle intended to be replicated. A label of "Replica" shall be
25 applied to the title and registration card. Custom vehicles and street rods shall be titled as the
26 year in which the vehicle was built and an appropriate description of the vehicle including make,
27 model and model year; provided that the model year of a custom vehicle and street rod vehicle
28 shall continue to be recognized as the manufacturer's assigned model year; and provided further
29 that the manufacturer's name shall continue to be used as the make with a label of “street rod” or
30 “custom vehicle” applied to the title and registration card. Specially constructed vehicles shall
31 be titled and registered showing the make as “specially constructed” and the year the vehicle was
32 built shall be the vehicle model year.

33 SECTION 2. Section 33 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding
34 the following paragraph:-

35 (37) For the registration of every street rod, replica vehicle, specially constructed
36 vehicle or custom vehicle, as defined in section 2H.

37 SECTION 3. Subsection (b) of section 142M of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so
38 appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraph:-

39 Specially constructed vehicles and replica vehicles, as defined and registered pursuant to
40 section 2H of chapter 90, which are registered on or before June 30, 2011 shall receive an
41 emissions waiver certificate; provided that upon registration the applicant certifies that the
42 vehicle shall be driven not more than 2,000 miles annually. Specially constructed vehicles and
43 replica vehicles, as so defined, registered after June 30, 2011 shall be subject to emission control
44 requirements based on the model year and configuration of the engine installed in the specially
45 constructed or replica vehicle, whether the engine is an original equipment manufacturer's
46 production engine, rebuilt engine or crate engine. Regulations relative to emissions compliance
47 for replica or specially constructed vehicles registered after June 30, 2011 may establish
48 maximum limits on the annual number of vehicle miles traveled by these vehicles; provided,
49 however that that the limit on the annual number of vehicle miles traveled shall not be less than
50 3,000 miles per year. If the model year of the engine installed in the specially constructed or
51 replica vehicle requires an onboard diagnostic system, the vehicle shall be subject to an onboard
52 diagnostic system emissions test applicable to the certified configuration, including any
53 exclusions or exemptions otherwise granted to that certified configuration.