

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 4105**

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## **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 21, 2016.

The committee on the Judiciary to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1187) of Garrett J. Bradley and others for legislation to increase the fines for failure to wear a seat belt, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4105) ought to pass.

For the committee,

JOHN V. FERNANDES.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4105**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**

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An Act relative to increasing fines for safety belt violations.

*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 13A of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
2   2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the second paragraph in line 25 and  
3   inserting in place thereof the following:-

4                   Any person who operates a motor vehicle without a safety belt, and any person  
5   16 years of age or over who rides as a passenger in a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt  
6   in violation of this section, shall be subject, for a first offense, to a written warning. Any person  
7   who operates a motor vehicle without a safety belt in violation of this section shall be subject, for  
8   a second or subsequent offense, to a fine of 25 dollars. Any person 16 years of age or over who  
9   rides as a passenger in a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt in violation of this section  
10   shall be subject, for a second or subsequent offense, to a fine of 10 dollars. Any operator of a  
11   motor vehicle shall be subject to an additional fine of 10 dollars for each person under the age of  
12   16 and no younger than 12 who is a passenger in said motor vehicle and not wearing a safety  
13   belt. The provisions of this section shall be enforced by law enforcement agencies when an  
14   operator of a motor vehicle or passenger who rides in the motor vehicle is not wearing a safety

15 belt in violation of motor vehicle laws. Safety belt violations will not result in surcharges on  
16 motor vehicle insurance premiums and a police officer may not search or inspect a motor  
17 vehicle, its contents, the driver, or a passenger solely because of a violation of this section.