

SENATE No. 1810

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William N. Brownsberger

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 to protect vulnerable road users by requiring certain vehicles to be equipped with side under-ride guards and blind spot mirrors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>
<i>Evandro C. Carvalho</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Aaron Michlewitz</i>	<i>3rd Suffolk</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>
<i>Mayor Martin J. Walsh</i>	<i>Boston City Hall 1 City Hall Plaza Boston, MA 02201</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>

SENATE No. 1810

By Mr. Brownsberger, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1810) of William N. Brownsberger, Russell E. Holmes, Jay D. Livingstone, Elizabeth A. Malia and other members of the General Court for legislation to protect vulnerable road users by requiring certain vehicles to be equipped with side under-ride guards and blind spot mirrors. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to protect vulnerable road users by requiring certain vehicles to be equipped with side under-ride guards and blind spot mirrors.

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 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition is hereby amended by inserting before the word “Dealer” the following
3 sentence: -

4 “Convex mirror”, a mirror on the front of a vehicle which enables the operator to see all
5 points on an imaginary horizontal line which is 3 feet above the road and is 1 foot directly
6 forward from the midpoint of the front of the motor vehicle and extends the full width of the
7 motor vehicle.

8 SECTION 2: Said section 1 is hereby further amended by inserting after the phrase
9 “United States Department of Defense.” the following sentence:-

10 Lateral protective device”, an apparatus installed between the front and rear wheels to
11 help prevent injuries to unprotected road users, particularly from falling underneath the vehicle.

12 SECTION 3. Section 7 of said chapter 90 so as appearing is hereby amended by
13 inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraph:-

14 Except in the case of an ambulance, fire apparatus, low-speed vehicle, or tractor, every
15 motor vehicle having a gross weight of more than 10,000 pounds, and every trailer having an
16 unladen weight of more than 10,000 pounds, and every semi-trailer unit having a gross weight of
17 more than 26,000 pounds, and every conventional cab configuration in which more than half of
18 the engine length is forward of the foremost point of the windshield base and the steering wheel
19 hub is in the forward quarter of the vehicle length operated in or upon any way shall be equipped
20 with a lateral protective device and a convex mirror, as defined by section 1 of chapter 90 of the
21 General Laws. The registrar shall adopt standards and specifications for the size, design, and
22 mounting of lateral protective devices and convex mirrors. The registrar may provide alternative
23 means of compliance with the convex mirror requirement, including cameras and infrared
24 devices. The Registrar shall also determine a phased-in schedule for compliance with this
25 paragraph, provided, however, that such phase-in shall begin no later than July 1, 2016.

26 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon passage, provided, however, that the
27 deadlines for compliance with this paragraph shall be established pursuant to section 3.