

SENATE No. 1951

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. McGee

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 provide for an air bag on-off switch to ensure safety to women, children and individuals with medical conditions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Thomas M. McGee

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Third Essex

SENATE No. 1951

By Mr. McGee, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1951) of Thomas M. McGee for legislation to provide for an air bag on-off switch to ensure safety to women, children and individuals with medical conditions. Transportation.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1854 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to provide for an air bag on-off switch to ensure safety to women, children and individuals with medical conditions.

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 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the
2 following new section:-

3 Section 62. Every licensed dealer and repair business in the Commonwealth shall provide
4 consumers with a summary of the final rule from the Department of Transportation, National
5 Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 49 CFR Parts 571 and 595 [Docket No. NHTSA-97-
6 3111-1] and the request form, when consumer is purchasing, leasing or renting vehicle or at time
7 of first check-up on bought, leased, or rented vehicle. Said licensed dealer and repair business
8 shall obtain from the consumer certification in writing that such summary and request form was
9 provided.

10 A summary shall include the provisions stating vehicle owners are able to receive an air
11 bag ON-OFF switch, installed for one or both the air bags in their vehicles if they, or users of
12 their vehicle, fall into one or more of the following specific risk groups: (i) individuals with
13 medical conditions where the risks of a deploying air bag exceed the risk of impacting the
14 steering wheel, dashboard or windshield in the absence of an air bag, including but not limited
15 to, pregnant women; (ii) individuals who cannot position themselves to properly operate the
16 vehicle with breastbone at least ten inches back from the center of the steering wheel air bag
17 cover; (iii) individuals with the need to transport an infant in a rear-facing child restraint in the
18 front seat because the vehicle has no rear seat, the rear seat is too small to accommodate a rear-
19 facing child restraint, or because it is necessary to constantly monitor the child's medical
20 condition; (iv) individuals with the need to transport children between one year old and twelve
21 years old in the front seat because the vehicle has no rear seat, the consumer must carry more
22 children than can be accommodated in the rear seat, or because it is necessary to constantly
23 monitor a child's medical condition.