

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1720**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kathleen R. LaNatra***

*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 increasing penalties for hit and runs with recreational vehicles in the Commonwealth to be known as the James Ward Act.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                         | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:     | DATE ADDED:      |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>    | <i>12th Plymouth</i>  | <i>2/1/2021</i>  |
| <i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>     | <i>1st Plymouth</i>   | <i>2/11/2021</i> |
| <i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>      | <i>5th Barnstable</i> | <i>2/22/2021</i> |
| <i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>     | <i>8th Plymouth</i>   | <i>2/24/2021</i> |
| <i>Christopher Hendricks</i>  | <i>11th Bristol</i>   | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>David Allen Robertson</i>  | <i>19th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>Susan Williams Gifford</i> | <i>2nd Plymouth</i>   | <i>2/26/2021</i> |
| <i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>      | <i>1st Barnstable</i> | <i>5/26/2021</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1720**

By Mrs. LaNatra of Kingston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1720) of Kathleen R. LaNatra and others relative to increasing penalties for hit and run with a recreational vehicle. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act increasing penalties for hit and runs with recreational vehicles in the Commonwealth to be known as the James Ward Act.

*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 26B of Chapter 90B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the words “shall be punished by a fine of not less  
3 than \$500 nor more than \$1,000” found in lines 17 through 18 and replacing them as follows: —  
4 person not resulting in the death of any person, shall be punished by a fine of not more than  
5 \$1,000 or by imprisonment in a jail or house of correction for not more than one year or both  
6 such fine and imprisonment.

7 SECTION 2. Section 26B of Chapter 90B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014  
8 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after the third paragraph, the following  
9 paragraph: — Whoever operates a snow vehicle or a recreation vehicle and, without stopping  
10 and making known his name, address and the registration number of his snow vehicle or  
11 recreation vehicle, goes away to avoid prosecution or evade apprehension after knowingly  
12 colliding with or otherwise causing bodily injury to any person shall, if the injuries result in the

- 13 death of a person, be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment in a jail or
- 14 house of correction for not more than two and one-half years or both such fine and
- 15 imprisonment.