

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

---

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTED BY:

***Kathleen R. LaNatra and Michelle L. Badger***

\_\_\_\_\_

*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>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Michelle L. Badger</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

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 2022  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 17 -18, the words “shall be punished  
3 by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000” and inserting in place thereof the following  
4 words:- person, not resulting in the death of another person, shall be punished by imprisonment  
5 in a jail or house of correction for not more than 1 year or by a fine of not less than \$500 nor  
6 more than \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

7 SECTION 2. Said section 26B of said chapter 90B, as so appearing, is hereby further  
8 amended by inserting, after subsection (c), the following subsection:-

9 (d) Whoever operates a snow vehicle or a recreation vehicle and, without stopping and  
10 making known their name, address and the registration number of his snow vehicle or recreation  
11 vehicle, leaves the scene after knowingly colliding with or otherwise causing bodily injury to  
12 another person shall, if the injuries result in the death of another person, be punished by

13 imprisonment in a jail or house of correction for not more than 2 1/2 years or by a fine of not  
14 more than \$5,000 or by both such fine and imprisonment.

15 SECTION 3. Said section 26B of said chapter 90B, as so appearing, is hereby further  
16 amended by striking out, in line 19, the word “(d)” and inserting in place thereof the following  
17 word:- (e).

18 SECTION 4. Said section 26B of said chapter 90B, as so appearing, is hereby further  
19 amended by striking out, in line 29, the word “(e)” and inserting in place thereof the following  
20 word:- (f).