

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel J. Ryan

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 relative to mobile carrying devices.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>Daniel J. Ryan</i> | <i>2nd Suffolk</i> | <i>1/16/2025</i> |

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3417 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to mobile carrying devices.

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

2 Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting in Section 1 after the
3 words “shall not include motorized bicycles” the following: or mobile carrying devices, as
4 defined in Section 1J

5 SECTION 2

6 Said Chapter 90 is hereby amended by adding a new Section 1J entitled “mobile carrying
7 devices:”

8 (1) MOBILE CARRYING DEVICE.—An electrically powered device that:

9

10 (a) Is operated on sidewalks and crosswalks and intended primarily for transporting
11 personal property;

12 (b) Weighs less than 90 pounds, excluding cargo;

13 (c) Has a maximum speed of 12.5 miles per hour; and

14 (d) Is equipped with a technology to transport personal property with the active
15 monitoring of a property owner; and

16 (e) Is primarily designed to remain within twenty-five feet of the personal property
17 owner.

18

19 (2) A mobile carrying device is not considered a vehicle unless expressly defined by law
20 as a vehicle.

21

22 (3) A mobile carrying device may be operated on a sidewalk or crosswalk so long as all
23 of the following requirements are met:

24

25 (a) the mobile carrying device is operated in accordance with the local ordinances, if any,
26 established by the local highway authority governing where the mobile carrying device is
27 operated;

28 (b) a personal property owner is actively monitoring the navigation and operation of the
29 mobile carrying device;

30 (c) the mobile carrying device is equipped with a system that enables the mobile carrying
31 device to come to a controlled stop.

32 (3) A personal property owner monitoring the mobile carrying device may not allow a
33 mobile carrying device to do any of the following:

34 (a) fail to comply with traffic or pedestrian control devices and signals;

35 (b) unreasonably interfere with pedestrians or traffic;

36 (c) transport hazardous material; or

37 (d) operate on a street or highway, except when crossing the street or highway within a
38 crosswalk.

39 (4) A mobile carrying device has the rights and obligations applicable to a pedestrian
40 under the same circumstances, except that a mobile carrying device shall yield the right-of-way
41 to a pedestrian on a sidewalk or crosswalk.

42 (5) A personal property owner may not operate a mobile carrying device unless the
43 person complies with this section.

44 (6) A violation of this section is an infraction.