SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1610 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 1211

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia D. Jehlen

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 establishing a primary safety belt law.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Patricia D. Jehlen	
Cory Atkins	*14th Middlesex*
William N. Brownsberger	
Katherine M. Clark	*Middlesex and Essex*
Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera	*10th Hampden*
Thomas P. Conroy	*13th Middlesex*
James B. Eldridge	
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Stephen Kulik	*1st Franklin*
Jason M. Lewis	*31st Middlesex*
Elizabeth A. Malia	*11th Suffolk*
Mark C. Montigny	
Richard T. Moore	
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	*34th Middlesex*
Ellen Story	*3rd Hampshire*
Martha M. Walz	*8th Suffolk*
James T. Welch	

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SENATE . . . . . No. 1211

By Ms. Jehlen, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1211) of Welch, Walz, Story and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a primary safety belt law [Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act establishing a primary safety belt law.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 13A of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the second paragraph in line 25 and inserting in place thereof the following:-

Any person who operates a motor vehicle without a safety belt, and any person 16 years of age or over who rides as a passenger in a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt in violation of this section, shall be subject to a fine of 50 dollars. Any operator of a motor vehicle shall be subject to an additional fine of 50 dollars for each person under the age of 16 and no younger than 12 who is a passenger in said motor vehicle and not wearing a safety belt. The provisions of this section shall be enforced by law enforcement agencies when an operator of a motor vehicle or passenger who rides in the motor vehicle is not wearing a safety belt in violation of motor vehicle laws. Safety belt violations will not result in surcharges on motor vehicle insurance premiums and a police officer may not search or inspect a motor vehicle, its contents, the driver, or a passenger solely because of a violation of this section.