

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
House of Representatives

Bill Summary

Bill Number: H.3698

Bill Name: An Act relative to federal motor vehicle safety standards compliance

Sponsor(s): Rep. Steven Howitt

Hearing Date: May 13th, 2025 (**Reporting Date:** July 12th, 2025)

Bill History: (2023-2024) HD.5357; Lately filed bill, did not reach committee.

Similar Bills: H.4053

Current Law: Inserts new §64 in MGL Chapter 90.

49 C.F.R. §591 is a federal regulation with a provision that allows individuals to import motor vehicles, despite potential compliance issues with federal motor vehicle safety standards, if the vehicle is 25 or more years old.

**Summary of
Proposed Law:**

§1 Defines “Kei car” as, “a vehicle primarily manufactured in Japan, with the following specifications: a length no longer than 11 feet, a width no greater than 4.9 feet, a height no taller than 6.6 feet, and an engine displacement no larger than 660cc.”

Directs the RMV not to refuse registration for automobiles, including Kei cars, that were imported in compliance with 49 C.F.R. §591.

Directs the RMV to develop policies for the registration of Kei cars and to honor inspection stickers for all automobiles imported in compliance with 49 C.F.R. §591.