

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
House of Representatives

Bill Summary

Bill Number: H.3675

Bill Name: An Act relative to the move over law

Sponsor(s): Rep. Kenneth Gordon

Hearing Date: June 3rd, 2025 (**Reporting Date:** August 2nd, 2025)

Bill History: (2023-2024) S.2639; Redrafted version reported by committee.

Similar Bills: H.3789, S.2352

Current Law: Amends MGL Chapter 89 §7C, regarding the requirement to change lanes or proceed with caution when approaching a stationary emergency, maintenance, or recovery vehicle on the road, also known as the 'Move over Law.'

**Summary of
Proposed Law:**

§1 Establishes a definition for 'utility vehicle' as, "a vehicle being used to install, maintain, repair, operate or restore communications service, electric or gas distribution or transmission service in an emergency and that is operated by an employee of or a person under contract with a company incorporated for the transmission of intelligence by electricity or by telephone or an electric distribution, transmission or distribution company as defined by section 1 of chapter 164."

§§2-3 Expands existing requirements for motor vehicles to change lanes or proceed with caution when approaching stationary vehicles to also account for utility vehicles.

§4 Increases the penalty for a violation of this statute from a \$100 fine to a fine of \$250 for a first offense, a fine of \$1,000 for a second offense, and a fine of \$2,500 for a third offence.

Establishes an additional penalty for any violation that results in an injury and states that such a violation will result in a fine of \$5,000 or one year in jail.

§5

Requires people who commit a second offense of the 'Move Over Law' to undergo an educational program.

Clarifies that a first or second offense of such a violation would not be a surchargeable offense but that a third or subsequent offense would be surchargeable.

Directs the registry to develop an annual traffic safety campaign for junior and adult operators and to include information on the hazards of distracted driving in publications of the driver's manual.