

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
House of Representatives

Bill Summary

Bill Number: H.3662

Bill Name: An Act to increase opportunity by ending debt-based driving restrictions

Sponsor(s): Rep. Brandy Fluker-Reid

Hearing Date: July 8th, 2025 (**Reporting Date:** September 6th, 2025)

Bill History: (2023-2024) H.3314; Sent for a House study.
(2021-2022) H.3453; Reported out by committee attached to H.3535.

Similar Bills: S.2368

**Summary of
Proposed Law:**

- §1** Rescinds, as a punishment for the nonpayment of taxes, the non-renewal of a driver's license.
- §§2-3** Repeals MGL Chapter 62C §47B, regarding the revocation of driver's license for failure to file a tax return or pay taxes owed, and GL Chapter 90 §22G, regarding a discretionary seven-day suspension of a license for littering.
- §4** Amends the fine structure for driving under a suspended license or registration or for providing a false license to an officer while driving under a suspended license to a flat \$500 fine for any offense from a fine of \$500 for a first offense and increasing fines and prison time for infractions with prior offenses.
- Removes the penalty of imprisonment for up to ten days for the offense of displaying on a vehicle a number plate belonging to another registration, of obscuring a number plate, and of failing to display any number plate with intent to conceal the identity of the vehicle.

Stipulates that no driver can be prosecuted for driving under a suspended license, upon a failure to pay an administrative reinstatement fee.

§5 Removes the ability of the registry to extend the suspension of a license by sixty days for a violation under the first paragraph of GL 90:23.

Removes the ability of the registry to extend the suspension of a license by a year for a violation under the second paragraph of GL 90:23.

Removes the ability of the registry to, in the event that a driver with a suspended license is found to have operated a vehicle registered to a third party, after a hearing revoke the registration of such a vehicle for thirty days.

§6 Removes the discretionary penalty of license suspension for failure to report a change in name or address associated with a license or registration within 30 days.

§7 Allows an applicant for license reinstatement to request a fee reduction or waiver based on financial hardship determined by GL 90C:3.

§8 Changes the penalty for a violation of driving a vehicle without insurance from a license suspension of 60 days to a motor vehicle registration suspension until such time that the driver provides proof of insurance.

Removes increased penalties of one year suspension for repeated violations of driving a vehicle without insurance.

§9 Requires a citation for a civil motor vehicle infraction to note, alongside language on the citation indicating that the violator may request a noncriminal hearing to contest the citation, that the violator may request such a hearing to seek a reduction or waiver based on financial hardship.

§10 Directs a registry to send notice to any driver who has an unpaid assessment from such a citation to notify the driver not less than one week after the citation is issued, seven days before the assessment is due, and on the assessment's due date.

- §11** Allows violators to request an assessment reduction or waiver regarding assessments from such civil motor vehicle infractions.
- §12** Exempts violators requesting a hearing for assessment reduction from current requirement on requesting a hearing for contested responsibility to request such a hearing within 20 days of the issuance of a citation for such civil motor vehicle infractions.
- §13** Exempts violators from the 20-day deadline after the final judgement on a civil motor vehicle infraction to pay an assessment if the violator requests an assessment reduction or waiver.
- §14** Allows individuals owing an assessment to request either a noncriminal hearing to determine a reduction or waiver of said assessment or request the removal of non-renewal penalties otherwise required by law.
- §15** Requires the waiver of assessments owed to the registry if the violator is a recipient of needs based public assistance or the violator's assets and income are exempt from seizure under GL 235:34. If the violator does not meet the preceding qualifications, the violator's assessments may be reduced upon a determination by the magistrate that payments will cause financial hardship.
- Removes, as a penalty for violators who fail to appear for a hearing or fail to pay an assessment regarding a civil motor vehicle infraction, either a 30-day suspension of the violator's driver's license for operator violations or a 30-day suspension of the vehicle's registration for owner violations.
- Requires the registry to waive all fees for all violators who receive needs-based public assistance or whose assets and income are exempt from seizure.
- §§16-17** Removes a penalty in which the registry revokes all items issued by the registry if a violator attempts to pay an assessment but whose method of payment is returned unpaid or rejected or who fails to pay the full assessment amount and still has not paid the assessment after a grace period granted by the registry.
- §18** Removes requirement for courts to report unpaid fees from public legal counsel services to the registry.

§19

Directs the registry to, within 3 months of passage, reinstate all licenses and registrations previously suspended or revoked under nonpayment violations from GL Chapter 60A section 2A; Chapter 62C section 47B; Chapter 90 sections 20A, 22G, 26A, and 34J; Chapter 90C section 3; and Chapter 211D section 2A, or otherwise revoked based upon debt owed to any debt collector arising from said penalties has been sold.