

Joint Committee on Health Care Financing 2025-2026 (194th) Bill Summary

<u>Bill Number:</u>	House, No. H4453
<u>Title:</u>	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN EXEMPTION FOR PERSONAL VEHICLE VALUE FROM THE MASSHEALTH ASSET LIMIT
<u>Sponsor:</u>	Representative Adam Scanlon (North Attleborough)
<u>Hearing Date:</u>	January 15, 2026
<u>Reporting Deadline:</u>	January 28, 2026
<u>Prior History:</u>	New Bill
<u>Similar Matters:</u>	N/A

Current Law:

M.G.L. c. 60A § 1 – Motor vehicle excise: Cities and towns assess an excise of \$25 per \$1,000 of valuation on motor vehicles. The value is determined by the Commissioner of DOR, and the excise is imposed on a certain percentage of that value based on the age of the vehicle.¹ The Motor Vehicle Excise does NOT apply to vehicles owned and registered by any veteran who:

- Has suffered the permanent loss or use both feet;
- Has suffered the permanent loss or use of both hands;
- Has been determined to be permanently disabled by the RMV Medical Advisory Board;
- Is receiving a statutory award from Veterans Administration for the loss of sight of one eye;
- Has suffered permanent impairment of vision of both eyes of the following status:
 - Central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye, with corrective glasses
 - Central visual acuity of more than 20/200 if there is poor peripheral field vision

Exemption applies to only 1 vehicle per qualified person and must be owned and registered for personal, noncommercial use. Once a person is granted this motor vehicle excise exemption, no further evidence of continued qualification is required for subsequent years.

M.G.L. c. 118E § 25 – Exempt income and resources: Establishes income and asset exemptions used to determine an individual's eligibility for Medicaid (MassHealth); including exclusions for

¹ For the motor vehicle excise the value is determined by MSRP according to the following statutory depreciation schedule:

In the year preceding the designated year of manufacture.....	50%
In the year of manufacture.....	90%
In the second year.....	60%
In the third year.....	40%
In the fourth year.....	25%
In the fifth and succeeding years.....	10%

primary residence under specific conditions, limited personal property, certain income and resource amounts required under federal Medicaid rules, and cemetery plots.

Summary:

This bill expands eligibility for MassHealth, by exempting one personally owned, non-commercial vehicle valued at less than \$10,000 from MassHealth eligibility asset calculations. A vehicle meeting these conditions would not be considered when determining an individual's eligibility for MassHealth.