

HOUSE No. 1498

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Claire D. Cronin

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 criminal responsibility for motor vehicle “hit and runs” on private property.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 1498

By Ms. Cronin of Easton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1498) of Claire D. Cronin relative to establishing criminal responsibility for motor vehicle operators who depart after knowingly colliding with or otherwise causing injury to any person on private property. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3259 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**
—————

An Act establishing criminal responsibility for motor vehicle “hit and runs” on private property.

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

1 Paragraph (a ½) of subdivision (2) of section 24 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out sub-paragraphs (1) and
3 (2) and inserting in place thereof the following 2 sub-paragraphs:-

4 (a ½) (1) Whoever operates a motor vehicle and without stopping and making known
5 his name, residence and the registration number of his motor vehicle, goes away after knowingly
6 colliding with or otherwise causing injury to any person not resulting in the death of any person,
7 shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than two years and by a
8 fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars.

9 (2) Whoever operates a motor and without stopping and making known his name,
10 residence and the registration number of his motor vehicle, goes away to avoid prosecution or
11 evade apprehension after knowingly colliding with or otherwise causing injury to any person
12 shall, if the injuries result in the death of a person, be punished by imprisonment in the state
13 prison for not less than two and one-half years nor more than ten years and by a fine of not less
14 than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a jail or
15 house of correction for not less than one year nor more than two and one-half years and by a fine
16 of not less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. The sentence imposed
17 upon such person shall not be reduced to less than one year, nor suspended, nor shall any person
18 convicted under this paragraph be eligible for probation, parole, or furlough or receive any
19 deduction from his sentence until such person has served at least one year of such sentence;
20 provided, however, that the commissioner of correction may on the recommendation of the
21 warden, superintendent or other person in charge of a correctional institution, or the
22 administrator of a county correctional institution, grant to an offender committed under this
23 paragraph, a temporary release in the custody of an officer of such institution for the following
24 purposes only: to attend the funeral of a relative; to visit a critically ill relative; to obtain
25 emergency medical or psychiatric services unavailable at said institution or to engage in
26 employment pursuant to a work release program.