

MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAILER EXCISE

Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 60A, an excise shall be assessed on every motor vehicle and trailer registered during the calendar year.

THE EXCISE

The excise is imposed on the privilege of registering a motor vehicle and is not a property tax. It therefore applies to anyone who registers a motor vehicle in Massachusetts.

Each vehicle is taxed from the first day of the month in which it is registered for the balance of the year.

The proceeds become a part of the general funds of the municipality and have the effect of reducing the property tax.

The rate of \$25.00 per thousand, which shall be effective for calendar year 1981 excise and thereafter, is uniform throughout the Commonwealth. No excise shall be for less than \$5.00.

Payment is due in thirty days from the date of the bill. Non-payment will result in additional charges and may lead to revocation of the vehicle's registration and suspension of the taxpayer's license.

THE VALUE

The value of a motor vehicle for excise purposes is determined by the Commissioner of Revenue at varying percentages of the manufacturer's list price in the year of manufacture as follows:

- 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%

Condition and market value are not considerations in determining the value, nor is age after the fifth year.

ASSESSMENT

The assessors of the municipality in which the vehicle is customarily garaged assess an excise on a motor vehicle or trailer. The excise is based on information furnished on the application for registration. Any correction of name, model, registration number, make or year of manufacture must be recorded with the Registry of Motor Vehicles.