HOUSE No. 107

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to reform, rebuild, and renew the transportation system of the Commonwealth for the twenty-first century..

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

1 SECTION 1. It is hereby found and declared that it is in the best interests of the 2 Commonwealth and its citizens to have a safe, modern, reliable, environmentally responsible, 3 efficient, and cost-effective transportation system. Transportation is vital to the future of the 4 Commonwealth and is a key factor in its continued economic development. While 5 Massachusetts is fortunate to possess many transportation assets, including a large public transit 6 network, expansive roadways, and a compact pattern of development that supports sustainable 7 growth, it also faces many challenges to preserve and strengthen its infrastructure for the future. 8 In particular, the present transportation system suffers from limited oversight, several large 9 agencies and authorities with independent policy-making functions, and a lack of sustainable 10 financing. For these reasons, the Commonwealth must enact meaningful reform to radically 11 simplify its transportation system, make it more accountable to the people, and set it on a 12 sustainable path to flourish well into this century.