

SENATE No. 1960

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act assisting towns to create quiet zones for at-grade rail crossings..

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. The General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, are hereby
2 amended by adding the following new Chapter:

3 Chapter 161E

4 Section 1. Subject to appropriation, the Secretary of Transportation shall create a Quiet
5 Zone Assistance Grant. Any public authority eligible to apply for the creation of a “Quiet Zone”
6 as defined by the United States Secretary of Transportation under authority of 49 U.S.C. 20153
7 may apply for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant for financial aid for the improvements necessary to
8 create said Quiet Zone. Eligible improvements must meet the standards specified by 49 U.S.C.
9 20153 and the United States Secretary of Transportation for said Quiet Zones, and may include,
10 but are not limited to, Four-Quadrant Gate Systems, Gates with Medians or Channelization
11 Devices, One-Way Streets with Gates, Photographic enforcement, Programmed Enforcements,
12 and Public Education and Awareness programs. Any public authority may be eligible for a Quiet
13 Zone Assistance Grant up to fifty percent of the total cost to implement a new Quiet Zone.