

SENATE No. 1776

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marc R. Pacheco

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 relative to safe transportation infrastructure..

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Marc R. Pacheco

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

SENATE No. 1776

By Mr. Pacheco, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1776) of Marc R. Pacheco for legislation relative to safe transportation infrastructure. Transportation.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1953 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
—————

An Act relative to safe transportation infrastructure..

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. Subsection (a) of Section 39M1/2 of Chapter 30 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out after the words “major contract” the words “a contract by which
3 the commonwealth or any of its public agencies is to procure the construction of a highway,
4 railway, bridge, tunnel or aviation facility or any component thereof and for which the certified
5 estimate of cost exceeds \$50,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following words:

6 a contract by which the commonwealth or any of its public agencies or authorities is to
7 procure the construction, repair or rehabilitation of a publicly owned highway, railway, bridge,
8 tunnel, building platform or aviation facility or any component thereof and for which the
9 certified estimate of cost exceeds \$50,000,000 or a contract or lease by which the commonwealth
10 or any of its public agencies or authorities is to procure directly or indirectly the construction,

11 repair or rehabilitation of a privately owned and publicly used highway, railway, bridge, tunnel,
12 building platform or aviation facility or any component thereof.

13 SECTION 2. Section 15 of Chapter 81A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006
14 General Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:

15 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the owner, licensee, permittee
16 or holder of an easement, contract or other right, in this section called the air rights user, of or
17 with respect to any structure, including bridges, located above the established grade line of the
18 turnpike, the Ted Williams tunnel, the central artery north area and the central artery, as those
19 terms are defined in this chapter, are hereby required to maintain, repair, restore, reconstruct,
20 rehabilitate, or improve air rights structures and air space at such air rights user's expense in
21 accordance with the requirements of the authority's policy directive entitled "Tunnel Inspection
22 and Testing Protocol for Roadways Covered by Air Rights Developments," effective as of
23 December 14, 2007, as the same may be modified and/or amended by the authority from time to
24 time, and with any directives issued by the authority in connection with such policy. Without
25 limiting the generality of its other powers, the authority may do all things necessary, convenient
26 or desirable to enforce this paragraph, to maintain, repair, restore, reconstruct, rehabilitate or
27 improve air rights structures and air space at the air rights user's expense, to enter upon the
28 property of an air rights user to exercise any of the foregoing powers and such entry shall not be
29 deemed trespass nor shall an entry for such purposes be deemed an entry for condemnation
30 proceedings which may be then pending, to impose a civil penalty in an amount of up to \$5,000
31 per day on an air rights users for failure to comply with this paragraph, which penalty may be
32 recovered only after notice and hearing conducted by the authority or its designee and subject to
33 judicial review and enforcement pursuant to chapter 30A of the General Laws or such other civil

34 proceedings as may be authorized by state or federal law. The full amount of any civil penalty
35 shall be paid to the authority. Nothing in this paragraph shall abrogate any private right created
36 by contract or otherwise.

37 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.