

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1790**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Karen E. Spilka***

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

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

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By Ms. Spilka, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1790) of Karen E. Spilka, Tom Sannicandro and Chris Walsh for legislation to assist towns to create quiet zones for at-grade rail crossings. Transportation.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1960 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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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 2008 Official Edition, are  
2 hereby amended by adding the following new chapter:

3                   Chapter 161E

4                   Section 1. Subject to appropriation, the Secretary of Transportation shall create  
5 a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant. Any public authority eligible to apply for the creation of a  
6 “Quiet Zone” as defined by the United States Secretary of Transportation under authority of 49  
7 U.S.C. 20153 may apply for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant for financial aid for the  
8 improvements necessary to create said Quiet Zone. Eligible improvements must meet the  
9 standards specified by 49 U.S.C. 20153 and the United States Secretary of Transportation for  
10 said Quiet Zones, and may include, but are not limited to, four-quadrant gate systems, gates with

11 medians or channelization devices, one-way streets with gates, photographic enforcement,  
12 programmed enforcements, and public education and awareness programs. Any public authority  
13 may be eligible for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant up to fifty percent of the total cost to  
14 implement a new Quiet Zone.