

HOUSE No. 4470

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 7, 2016.

The committee on Transportation to whom was recommitted the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3038) of Elizabeth A. Malia and others for legislation to establish reasonable and proper speed limits inside urban districts on public ways, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4470) ought to pass.

For the committee,

WILLIAM M. STRAUS.

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to speed limits.

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. Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 17B the following section:-

3 Section 17C. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 90 or any general or special law
4 to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board
5 of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town
6 which accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests
7 of public safety and without further authority, establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour inside
8 a thickly settled or business district in the city or town which is not a state highway.

9 (b) Upon establishing a speed limit under this section the city or town shall notify the
10 department. The operation of a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of a speed limit established
11 under this section shall be a violation of section 17 of chapter 90.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting
13 after section 18A the following section:-

14 Section 18B. (a) Notwithstanding section 18 of chapter 90 or any general or special law
15 to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board
16 of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town
17 which accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests
18 of public safety and without further authority, establish designated safety zones on, at or near any
19 way in the city or town which is not a state highway, and with the approval of the department if
20 the same is a state highway. Such safety zones shall be posted as having a speed limit of 20
21 miles per hour.

22 (b) The operation of a motor vehicle in such zone at a speed exceeding the speed limit
23 established under this section shall be a violation of section 17 of chapter 90.