

SENATE No. 1849

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eric P. Lesser

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 to study the feasibility of high-speed rail access between Springfield and Boston.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
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| <i>Eric P. Lesser</i> | <i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. McGee</i> | <i>Third Essex</i> |
| <i>Harriette L. Chandler</i> | <i>First Worcester</i> |
| <i>James T. Welch</i> | <i>Hampden</i> |
| <i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i> | <i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i> |
| <i>Benjamin B. Downing</i> | <i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i> |
| <i>Anne M. Gobi</i> | <i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Ryan C. Fattman</i> | <i>Worcester and Norfolk</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> |
| <i>Joseph F. Wagner</i> | <i>8th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Aaron Vega</i> | <i>5th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Carlos Gonzalez</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Brian M. Ashe</i> | <i>2nd Hampden</i> |
| <i>Jose F. Tosado</i> | <i>9th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. Petrolati</i> | <i>7th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Benjamin Swan</i> | <i>11th Hampden</i> |

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| <i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i> | <i>12th Hampden</i> |
| <i>John W. Scibak</i> | <i>2nd Hampshire</i> |
| <i>John C. Velis</i> | <i>4th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Ellen Story</i> | <i>3rd Hampshire</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Finn</i> | <i>6th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Peter V. Kocot</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> |
| <i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i> | <i>4th Berkshire</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i> | <i>3rd Berkshire</i> |
| <i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i> | <i>13th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Chris Walsh</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> |

SENATE No. 1849

By Mr. Lesser, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1849) of Eric P. Lesser, Thomas M. McGee, Harriette L. Chandler, James T. Welch and other members of the General Court for legislation to study the feasibility of high-speed rail access between Springfield and Boston. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to study the feasibility of high-speed rail access between Springfield and Boston.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Massachusetts
2 Department of Transportation shall conduct a feasibility study relative to high-speed rail access
3 between the city of Springfield and the city of Boston.

4 The study shall examine and evaluate the costs and economic opportunities related to
5 establishing high-speed rail service between the city of Springfield and the city of Boston,
6 including but not limited to: (i) the projected capital costs; (ii) the projected operating costs and
7 revenue estimates; (iii) the projected ridership levels; (iv) the prospect of operating high-speed
8 rail service on existing rights of way and other operational issues; (v) the environmental and
9 community impact estimates; (vi) the availability of federal, state, local and private sector
10 funding sources; and (vii) the resulting economic, social and cultural benefits to the Greater
11 Springfield region and the Commonwealth as a whole.

12 The department shall file the report with the clerks of the house and senate, the chairs of
13 the house and senate committee on ways and means and the chairs of the joint committee on
14 transportation not later than August 1, 2015.