

HOUSE No. 4831

Section 104 contained in the engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2019 (see House, No. 4800), which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see Attachment M of House, No. 4833). July 27, 2018.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation congestion toll rate pricing pilot program.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for a congestion toll rate pricing pilot program, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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 Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall design and
2 implement a temporary pilot program to test the technological feasibility of charging toll rates
3 that are different depending on the time of day, with the goal of relieving congestion for
4 motorists. The program shall not result in a toll rate increase on any road or driver and shall
5 include a discount structure, including off-peak discounts of not less than 25 per cent. Only
6 vehicles with transponders issued by the commonwealth shall be eligible for such discounts. The
7 pilot program shall commence not later than March 31, 2019.

8 The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall issue a report on the results of the
9 pilot program including, but not limited to: (i) the scope of the pilot program; (ii) implementation

10 challenges and lessons learned; (iii) data on customer participation and customer satisfaction;
11 (iv) an analysis of how the pilot program compared to smarter tolling policies in other states and
12 regions; and (v) an analysis of how tolling policies can be used to alleviate congestion on
13 roadways and propose next steps toward implementation. Not later than 60 days after the
14 conclusion of the program, the report shall be filed with the clerks of the house of representatives
15 and the senate, the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means and the house
16 and senate chairs of the joint committee on transportation.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2018.