

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1946

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Jason M. Lewis, (BY REQUEST)***

*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 improve pedestrian and vehicular safety.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Vincent Lawrence Dixon*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*60 Lake Street – Unit N, Winchester, Mass.  
01890*

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1946

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By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1946) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety. Transportation.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety.

*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 General Laws are hereby amended by inserting the  
2 following new chapter:

3           An Act to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety.

4           1.) The safety of pedestrians, and vehicular traffic, is a serious policy concern.

5           Properly marked crosswalks, vehicle lanes, and other markings, help to protect  
6 pedestrians, vehicles, and improve general public safety. Due to the normal process of  
7 weathering, and volumes of traffic, the visibility of such markings deteriorates over time, and  
8 declines in the value of performing, its intended purposes.

9           2.) Therefore, this Statute, sets standards, which are to be regularly reviewed, enforced,  
10 incentivized, and when possible, assisted by the Commonwealth, in keeping these markings to a  
11 sufficient standard to perform their important role in public safety.

12           3.) The Massachusetts Department of Transportation, shall establish particular standards,  
13 that are suitable for safety of all markings, on roadways, streets, and other traffic surfaces.

14           4.) Measurement by Lumens, devices that measure reflectivity, and/or can be measured  
15 by light meters, and/or other standards; shall be further researched, and enumerated, in a formal  
16 listing or document: “Pedestrian and Traffic Markings Safety Maintenance,” to be established by  
17 regulation; with suitable public input, enforceable on all state, regional, and municipal roadways,  
18 and traffic surfaces, in the interest of health and safety.

19           5.) Roadway, and traffic surfaces, shall be measured, and ordered to be kept at a  
20 particular level of reflectivity, and visibility, in all areas. All local residents, may notify their  
21 local DPW offices, and/or the DOT of Massachusetts, when they believe that any of these  
22 markings, especially pedestrian crosswalks, and busy intersections, have markings that have  
23 deteriorated below a level, that would be useful in protecting pedestrians, and facilitating safer  
24 traffic.

25           6.) Municipalities may establish local hotline numbers for collecting such complaints, for  
26 prompt response.

27           7.) The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Transportation, shall also  
28 assess the costs of keeping such markings up to the needed level of safety, and recommend what  
29 appropriations might be shared by the Commonwealth, in training local municipal staff, to keep  
30 these markings as needed, to the legal standards.