

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3024

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Sean Garballey, (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 provide for variable speed limits on limited-access ways.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Paul Schlichtman*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

DATE ADDED:

*1/18/2019*

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3024

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By Mr. Garballey of Arlington (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3024) of Paul Schlichtman relative to variable speed limits on limited-access ways. Transportation.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to provide for variable speed limits on limited-access ways.

*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 striking out Section  
2   17A, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, and inserting after the first paragraph of Chapter  
3   81, Section 7C, the following:

4           Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the speed limit on a limited-  
5   access way, including the Massachusetts Turnpike, shall be determined by an engineering and  
6   safety study and by the eighty-fifth percentile speed of free-flowing traffic under ideal conditions  
7   of a section of limited-access way, rounded to the nearest multiple of five miles per hour. A  
8   speed limit established under this act shall not be posted at less than the fiftieth percentile speed  
9   of free-flowing traffic under optimal conditions on the fastest portion of the limited-access way  
10   segment for which the speed limit is being posted. If a limited-access way segment includes one  
11   or more features with a design speed that is lower than the speed limit determined under this  
12   section, advisory signs may be posted. Speed limits posted using a variable message sign may be

- 13     adjusted to compensate for congestion, weather conditions, or any other temporary factor that
- 14     has a bearing on a safe speed.