

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3467**

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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:                   | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:                                       | DATE ADDED:      |
|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Paul Schilchtman</i> | <i>47 Mystic Street Apt. 8C Arlington,<br/>MA 02474</i> | <i>2/17/2021</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3467**

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By Mr. Garballey of Arlington (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3467) of Paul Schilchtman relative to variable speed limits on limited-access ways. Transportation.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3024 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
—————

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 2018 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.