

HOUSE No. 3480

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kenneth I. Gordon

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 relative to improving highway congestion and safety through ramp metering.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 3480

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3480) of Kenneth I. Gordon relative to improving highway congestion and safety through ramp metering. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to improving highway congestion and safety through ramp metering.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
2 Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall conduct a study examining the feasibility of
3 implementing a so-called ramp metering system on state and Interstate highways. For the
4 purposes of this act, ramp metering shall mean a strategy used to regulate the volume of vehicles
5 entering a freeway at a given time in order to achieve optimal freeway operations. The study
6 shall evaluate the cost, feasibility, and effectiveness of implementing a ramp metering system at
7 priority locations in the commonwealth.

8 SECTION 2. The department shall file the report with the clerks of the house and senate,
9 the chairs of the house and senate committee on ways and means and the co-chairs of the joint
10 committee on transportation not later than 1 year after the passage of this act. Recommendations
11 of the report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) criteria for determining priority ramp
12 metering locations; (ii) identification of priority ramp metering locations; (iii) ramp metering

13 system design criteria; (iv) a cost-benefit analysis of implementing a ramp metering system at
14 priority locations; (v) adequate performance and reporting measures; (vi) public education and
15 engagement strategies; and (vii) any legislative or regulatory changes necessary to implement
16 said program.