

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 5085

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 26, 2022.

The committee on Public Health to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1447) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Joanne M. Comerford, Jason M. Lewis, Carmine Lawrence Gentile and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by transportation pollution, and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2230) of Christine P. Barber, Mike Connolly and others for legislation to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities exposed to transportation pollution, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 5085) ought to pass.

For the committee,

MARJORIE C. DECKER.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 5085**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court**  
**(2021-2022)**  
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An Act to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by transportation pollution.

*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 department of environmental protection, in consultation with the  
2 executive office of energy and environmental affairs and bureau of environmental health, shall  
3 convene a technical advisory committee that shall consist of not less than 9 individuals, at least 1  
4 of whom shall represent residents of environmental justice populations, as determined by the  
5 Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, impacted by air pollution  
6 living adjacent to a major highway, at least 1 of whom shall represent academics with expertise  
7 in air monitoring, environmental health, air toxics and air pollution and at least 1 of whom shall  
8 represent organized labor. The committee shall: (i) identify communities with high cumulative  
9 exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria pollutants, including “ultrafine particles”  
10 as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency; (ii) identify the likely air pollution hotspots  
11 and corridors due to high concentrations of traffic-related air pollution throughout the  
12 commonwealth that should be equipped with new or expanded air monitors; and (iii) establish  
13 definitions for “air quality” and “air quality target pollutants” that shall include, but not be

14 limited to, consideration of criteria pollutants, black carbon and ultrafine particulate matter.

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16 Not later than June 30, 2023, the department of environmental protection shall  
17 install and operate air monitors in not less than 8 air pollution hotspots or corridors that measure  
18 at least 1 of each of the following pollutants: (i) black carbon; (ii) nitrogen oxides; and (iii)  
19 ultrafine particulate matter. Not later than December 31, 2023, the department of environmental  
20 protection shall establish baseline air quality in air pollution hotspots and corridors. Data from  
21 the air monitors shall be publicly accessible and provide near-time information. The department  
22 of environmental protection shall work with residents from environmental justice populations to  
23 conduct participatory action research where residents can use mobile air sensors to expand the  
24 number of locations where residents can track air quality.

25 The department shall convene the technical advisory committee by December 1,  
26 2022.

27 The department of environmental protection shall file a report of the technical  
28 advisory committee's findings, including the baseline air quality levels and recommendations to  
29 reduce air pollution in those identified locations by 50 per cent below the baseline by December  
30 31, 2030, with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint committee on  
31 public health and the joint committee on environment, energy and natural resources not later than  
32 June 30, 2024.