

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Cynthia Stone Creem***

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*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 promoting access to zero-emission school buses.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Cynthia Stone Creem*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Middlesex and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cynthia Stone Creem for legislation to promote access to zero-emission school buses. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act promoting access to zero-emission school buses.

*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 448 of the acts of 2016 is hereby amended by inserting after section  
2 6 the following section:-

3 SECTION 6A. (a) As used in this section, the following word shall, unless the context  
4 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

5 “Zero-emission school bus”, a school bus that produces no engine exhaust carbon  
6 emissions.

7 (b) The department of energy resources, in conjunction with the Massachusetts clean  
8 energy technology center, shall, subject to appropriation, establish a program to provide grants or  
9 other financial incentives to assist municipalities and regional school districts in purchasing or  
10 leasing zero-emission school buses. The grants or other financial incentives may be used for the  
11 purchase or lease of zero-emission school buses or for the purchase and installation of school bus  
12 charging stations and related infrastructure.

13 (c) The department of energy resources may promulgate regulations to administer the  
14 program established under this section. At least once per calendar year, the department of energy  
15 resources shall provide outreach about the zero-emission school bus incentive program  
16 established under this section to municipalities and regional school districts where the median  
17 household income is below the commonwealth's median or where the 5-year average rate of  
18 emergency department visits for childhood (ages 5-14 years) asthmas is greater than the  
19 commonwealth's 5-year average rate.

20 (d) The commissioner shall publish and regularly update data regarding program usage  
21 including, but not limited to: (i) the number and amount of grants or incentives provided; (ii) the  
22 make, model and type of school bus for which the rebate or incentive was issued; (iii) the  
23 municipality or regional school district in which the school bus operates; and (iv) the estimated  
24 total greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved from the grants or incentives issued.

25 (e) When awarding grant or other financial incentives under this section, the department  
26 of energy resources shall prioritize municipalities and regional school districts where the median  
27 household income is below the commonwealth's median or where the 5-year average rate of  
28 emergency department visits for childhood (ages 5-14 years) asthmas is greater than the  
29 commonwealth's 5-year average rate.

30 SECTION 2. The operational services division, in conjunction with the department of  
31 energy resources and the Massachusetts clean energy technology center, shall establish a  
32 statewide contract through which municipalities and regional school districts can purchase or  
33 lease zero-emission school buses.