

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Diana DiZoglio

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 creating a Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority alert system.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Diana DiZoglio

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex

SENATE No.

By Ms. DiZoglio, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Diana DiZoglio for legislation to create a Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority alert system. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act creating a Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority alert system.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 161A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 48A. (a) There is hereby created, subject to appropriation, a Merrimack Valley
4 Regional Transit Authority alert system. The alert system shall be used, when appropriate, to
5 alert riders of delays and soon to be arriving rides. A delay shall be considered anything which
6 prevents the ride from arriving at the expected and listed time according to the ride schedule. The
7 alert system shall notify riders with a text message or phone call when a bus is five minutes away
8 from the pickup location.

9 (b) The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority, in conjunction with the
10 Massachusetts Department of Transportation, shall, subject to appropriation, develop and
11 implement the alert system. The secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation

12 shall adopt rules and regulations, as necessary, to ensure proper implementation of the rider alert
13 system.

14 In promulgating such rules and regulations, the secretary shall consult with: the general
15 manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, the chief operating officer of the
16 Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority, and the chief operating officer of the
17 Massachusetts Port Authority.

18 (c) All bus and van operators associated with the MVRTA bus routes and other
19 appropriate personnel as determined by the secretary shall be trained on the alert system
20 application and protocols. Re-training shall be included in the in-service training curriculum for
21 such personnel.