

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Smitty Pignatelli

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 commissioning a study of a public transportation benefit program for employees of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Smitty Pignatelli	3rd Berkshire	1/9/2023
James C. Arena-DeRosa	8th Middlesex	1/20/2023
Josh S. Cutler	6th Plymouth	1/20/2023
Patrick M. O'Connor	First Plymouth and Norfolk	2/8/2023
Ryan M. Hamilton	15th Essex	2/8/2023
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk	2/15/2023

By Representative Pignatelli of Lenox, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3408) of Smitty Pignatelli and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to a public transportation benefit program for employees of the Commonwealth. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court (2023-2024)

An Act commissioning a study of a public transportation benefit program for employees of the Commonwealth.

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. (a) There is hereby established a commission to study the feasibility and

2 implementation of a subsidized public transportation benefit program for employees of the

3 commonwealth in order to incentivize further use of public transportation by state employees,

4 reduce congestion on the commonwealth's roadways, and decrease carbon emissions from

5 commuter vehicles.

6 When investigating the potential implementation of such a benefit, the study shall

7 include, but not be limited to: (i) the creation of a monthly transit pass benefit program for

8 employees of the Commonwealth, (ii) collaboration with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation

- 9 Authority and other regional transit authorities, (iii) tax implications for employees, (iv) the
- 10 possibility of imputed income for employees, (v) partnership with an employee benefits provider,

(vi) equity regarding the pre-tax transportation benefit threshold, (vii) implications for employee
labor contracts, and (viii) funding sources.

13 The commission shall consist of the following members: an appointee of the governor, 14 who shall serve as the chair; the secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or 15 their designee; the general manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, or their 16 designee; the comptroller of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, or their designee; the chief 17 human resources officer, or their designee; and the co-chairs of the joint committee on 18 transportation, or their designees.

(b) The commission shall convene no later than two months after the passage of this act
and shall file a report of its findings and recommendations with the clerk of the House of
Representatives, the clerk of the Senate, and the chairs of the joint committee on transportation
no later than one year after the passage of this act.