HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2361 FILED ON: 1/19/2023

HOUSE . . . . . No. 570

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam J. Scanlon and Michael P. Kushmerek

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 student transportation.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Adam J. Scanlon	*14th Bristol*	*1/19/2023*
Michael P. Kushmerek	*3rd Worcester*	*1/19/2023*
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	*1st Hampshire*	*1/19/2023*
Vanna Howard	*17th Middlesex*	*1/31/2023*
Jason M. Lewis	*Fifth Middlesex*	*2/7/2023*
Carol A. Doherty	*3rd Bristol*	*3/13/2023*
Jacob R. Oliveira	*Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester*	*4/21/2023*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 570

By Representatives Scanlon of North Attleborough and Kushmerek of Fitchburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 570) of Adam Scanlon, Michael P. Kushmerek and others relative to student transportation. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to student transportation.

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

SECTION 1. Section 7C of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 7C, the following new section:-

Section 7B 1/2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall maintain a registry of all vendors providing school transportation services.

SECTION 3. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 68, the following new section:-

Section 68A. A school district shall provide all parents and guardians of students the opportunity to decline school transportation on an annual basis. Such offers shall be made not less than 30 days prior to the start of the academic year.

Should a parent or guardian of a student decline transportation for their student, the school district shall not be obligated to provide transportation to said student for said academic year as designated by the parent or guardian.

SECTION 4. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 16C, the following new section:-

Section 16C ½. A regional school district shall provide all parents and guardians of students the opportunity to decline school transportation on an annual basis. Such offers shall be made not less than 30 days prior to the start of the academic year.

Should a parent or guardian of a student decline transportation for their student, the regional school district shall not be obligated to provide transportation to said student for said academic year as designated by the parent or guardian.

SECTION 5. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the department of transportation, shall conduct a study of student transportation collaboratives and consortiums. Said study shall examine what school districts would be best served by implementing a collaborative or consortium and how such a collaborative or consortium could be implemented in a district. The department shall file its report with the chairs of the joint committee on education, the chairs of the joint committee on transportation, the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways & means, and the house and senate clerks on or before July 1, 2024.