

HOUSE No. 870

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven Owens and Adrienne Pusateri Ramos

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 to support better commuting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 870

By Representatives Owens of Watertown and Ramos of North Andover, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 870) of Steven Owens, Adrienne Pusateri Ramos and others relative to commuting trends and drive alone rates. Environment and Natural Resources.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to support better commuting.

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 Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection shall revise
2 310 Code of Massachusetts Regulation 7.16 as follows:

3 (1) Section 7.16 (1)(f) shall be amended as follows, replace ‘1,000’ with ‘250’

4 (2) At the end add:

5 “(11) beginning January 1, 2024, for the purposes of section 7.16 the term ‘affected
6 facility’ means an employer who employs more than 250 individuals in the Commonwealth of
7 Massachusetts”

8 “(12) employers who are members of transportation management associations are exempt
9 from the requirements of section 7.16”

10 “(13) transportation management associations are required to submit reports for ‘affected
11 facilities’ so long as they are members of such organization. Transportation management
12 associations may submit consolidated reports for employers within its geographic service area”

13 “(14) employers and transportation management associations with drive alone rates less
14 that 75% are only required to submit reports required by the section every two years”

15 Section 2 REPORTING – The Department of Environmental Protection shall consolidate
16 reports and release to the public, at a minimum, the following information:

17 (1) Statewide drive alone rate

18 (2) Percentage of affected facilities that have drive alone rates below 75%

19 Section 3 INTERGOVERNMENTAL DATA SHARING – The Department of
20 Environmental Protection shall share with the Department of Transportation all reported data and
21 the Department of Transportation shall share any data, reports or statistics regarding commuting
22 trends and drive alone rates within the commonwealth. The Department of Environmental
23 Protection and the Department of Transportation shall collaborate to analyze such information on
24 a bi-annual basis.

25 Section 4 CARBON REDUCTION PLAN – The Department of Transportation shall take
26 into consideration data and information provided by the Department of Environmental Protection
27 when developing a carbon reduction strategy as required by United States Code Title 23 Section
28 175(d) and as appropriate, provide funding from such program to transportation management
29 associations projects and programs aimed at reducing drive alone commute rates.