

SENATE No. 2271

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Liz Miranda

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 improving rail service on the Fairmount commuter rail line.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	
<i>Lydia Edwards</i>	<i>Third Suffolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>3/15/2023</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>	<i>5/18/2023</i>

SENATE No. 2271

By Ms. Miranda, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2271) of Liz Miranda and Lydia Edwards for legislation to improve rail service on the Fairmount commuter rail line. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act improving rail service on the Fairmount commuter rail line.

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: Within 180 days following the effective date, the Massachusetts Bay
2 Transportation Authority and operator of commuter rail service shall make the following
3 improvements to the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line: (i) require uniform fares at all stations
4 from South Station to Readville that are the same rate charged to ride the subway network, with
5 free transfers to connecting bus lines and to the Red and Silver Lines at South Station; (ii)
6 complete a plan, in consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Planning
7 Office, for electrifying the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line, and post that plan online in an
8 accessible format; and (iii) allow fare media including, but not limited to, CharlieCards or its
9 equivalent successor products, M7 Passes, S-Cards, Youth Passes, and other discounted fare
10 medium available to people with disabilities, seniors, students, and those people meeting other
11 eligibility criteria; (iv) amend the train or connecting bus schedules to facilitate synchronized bus
12 service with commuter rail service at Fairmount Commuter Rail Line stations, to the maximum

13 extent feasible; and (v) designate on station maps the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line as the
14 Fairmount/Indigo Line.

15 SECTION 2: The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall implement
16 electrification along the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line from South Station to Readville Station
17 by December 31, 2024. Not later than November 1, 2023, the Massachusetts Department of
18 Transportation should begin construction on the Fairmount corridor to support rail electrification.
19 Not later than December 31, 2025, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and
20 Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall work with the Executive Office of Energy and
21 Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and
22 Massachusetts Department of Public Health to evaluate and file a report with the Joint
23 Committee on Transportation indicating the greenhouse gas emissions reduction, air quality
24 improvement, climate and health benefits of electrifying the Fairmount/Indigo Line.

25 SECTION 3: By December 31, 2029, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
26 shall operate service on the Fairmount/Indigo Line every 7.5 minutes in each direction and
27 ensure that there are no less than three train-sets dedicated to service on the line. By December
28 31, 2029, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall construct high-level ADA-
29 compliant platforms at Fairmount and Readville Stations. As part of its operations in 2029, the
30 Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority or Massachusetts Department of Transportation
31 shall complete an analysis into additional entrances at existing stations and redundant elevators
32 and stairs and adding infill stations at Columbia Road and River Street. Train-sets shall not be
33 diverted from the Fairmount/Indigo Line service for any purpose except maintenance directly
34 upon such train-set. By December 31, 2035, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
35 shall maintain the ability to operate service on the Fairmount/Indigo Line every 5 minutes in

36 each direction. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall pursue federal funding to
37 support the Fairmount/Indigo Line improvements.