

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3798**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Marcus S. Vaughn***

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*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 establishing school zones for locomotives.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/3/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3798**

By Representative Vaughn of Wrentham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3798) of Marcus S. Vaughn relative to establishing school zone speed limits for locomotives. Transportation.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3462 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
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An Act establishing school zones for locomotives.

*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 160 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 19 the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 19A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a city or town  
4 may, by vote of the city council or other legislative body of a city, or town meeting or other  
5 legislative body of a town, establish designated school zones as provided in section 2 of chapter  
6 85 for passenger and freight locomotive engines operating on railroads within the city or town,  
7 and may set speed limits for locomotives operating in said zones at a rate of speed not to exceed  
8 20 miles per hour; provided, however, that no such designation or speed limit shall be effective  
9 until the city or town; (i) notifies any railroad corporation with a railroad running through the  
10 designated zone of such designation and speed limit, and (ii) erects signs indicating such

11 designation and speed limit, in a manner consistent with the department of highways' current  
12 manual on uniform traffic control devices and said department's sample regulation for a standard  
13 municipal traffic code, at such points as said department and the effected railroad corporations,  
14 acting jointly, may designate. No railroad corporation, including the Massachusetts Bay  
15 Transportation Authority, shall permit a passenger or freight locomotive to operate on a railroad  
16 at a rate of speed greater than the rate posted while traveling through a designated school zone in  
17 a city or town. Cities and towns shall be responsible for the cost of erecting and maintaining  
18 signs pursuant to this section.