

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mark C. Montigny

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 establish a reduced fare pilot program for students aboard South Coast Rail.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mark C. Montigny

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to establish a reduced fare pilot program for students aboard South Coast Rail.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Massachusetts Bay
2 Transportation Authority, in collaboration with Bridgewater State University, shall implement a
3 reduced fare pilot program for student semester commuter rail passes along the South Coast Rail
4 corridor. The pilot program shall provide a reduced fare equal to 50 per cent of the standard fare
5 for students enrolled at said university who reside within a municipality along the South Coast
6 Rail corridor, including but not limited to, the cities of New Bedford, Fall River, Taunton, and
7 the towns of Acushnet, Berkley, Bridgewater, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville,
8 Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Rochester, and Somerset. Bridgewater State University shall
9 distribute said passes and prioritize allocation based upon student financial need. The authority
10 shall implement the reduced fare pilot program for the 2025-2026 academic year and submit a
11 report to the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing the total number of
12 reduced student passes distributed, number of passes distributed delineated by the city or town of
13 residence, and the total cost incurred to implement the program. Said report shall be submitted
14 no later than September 1, 2026.