

SENATE No. 229

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard J. Ross

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 resolve:

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to making exceptions to certain public school transportation laws.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael R. Knapik</i>	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	

SENATE No. 229

By Mr. Ross, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 229) of Richard J. Ross, Carolyn C. Dykema, Michael R. Knapik and Bruce E. Tarr for legislation to provide for an investigation and study relative to making exceptions to certain public school transportation laws. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to making exceptions to certain public school transportation laws.

1 Resolved, Resolved, That a special commission is hereby established for the purposes of
2 making an investigation and study relative to making exceptions to Massachusetts General Laws
3 ch 71 § 68 for certain towns in the Commonwealth. The commission will study 5 examples of
4 towns throughout the Commonwealth, to be chosen by the legislative members of the
5 commission in a meeting no later than 60 days after the effective date of this resolve, with certain
6 characteristics: a historical character, a lack of sidewalks within a 2 mile radius of their schools
7 and membership in a regional school district. The commission will be charged with determining
8 if those towns have safe egress for children to get to school within that 2 mile radius and
9 determine whether or not to exempt those towns from MGL ch 71 § 68.

10 The commission shall consist of: 3 members of the Senate, chosen by the Senate
11 President, 1 of which is a member of the minority party, or a designee; 1 of whom shall be the
12 chair of the joint committee on municipalities and regional government, or a designee; 1 of
13 whom shall be the chair of the joint committee on education, or a designee; 3 members of the
14 House of Representatives that are chosen by the Speaker, 1 of which is a member of the minority

15 party, or a designee; 1 of whom shall be the chair of the joint committee on municipalities and
16 regional government, or a designee; 1 of whom shall be the chair of the joint committee on
17 education, or a designee; a representative from the School Transportation Association of
18 Massachusetts; 1 member of each school board from each of the towns being studied to be
19 chosen by the local school board; the Secretary of Education, or a designee; the Secretary of the
20 Department of Transportation, or a designee; and 1 person chosen by the governor.

21 Legislative appointments shall be made not later than 30 days after the effective date of
22 this resolve, town appointments shall be made not later than 60 days after the effective date of
23 this resolve. The chairpersons shall meet with the full commission not later than 90 days after
24 the effective date of this resolve.

25 Members shall not receive compensation for their services but may receive
26 reimbursement for the reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as
27 members of the commission.

28 Not later than September 17, 2012, the commission shall report to the general court the
29 result of its investigation and study and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of
30 legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerk of
31 the House of Representatives who shall forward the same to the joint committee on
32 municipalities and regional government and the joint committee on education.