

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #: H.2287

Title: An Act relative to snow removal fines

Sponsor: Rep. Daniel Hunt

Committee: Municipalities and Regional Government

Hearing Date: June 24, 2025

Prior History: Refile of H.2071 (Study Order H.4573)

Current Law: Chapter 40 Section 21(3) of MGL lists the purposes for which cities and towns may adopt ordinances and by-laws. Subsection (3) allows them to regulate the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks within the limits of public ways, and to impose penalties for violations upon the owner of abutting property, or their agent having care of the property.

Summary: This legislation amends Section 21(3) of Chapter 40 by inserting language stating that municipal by-laws or ordinances regulating the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks within the limits of public ways shall apply to sidewalks abutting privately-owned property within the state highway system of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the parkways and public ways of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, unless such by-laws or ordinances are clearly inconsistent with a rule or regulation promulgated by either of such departments. Municipalities may enforce such ordinances and by-laws if they share the revenue with the parties through a memorandum of understanding.