

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3769**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf*

*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 promote a just transition to electric school buses.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/20/2023</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>4/4/2023</i>

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By Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3769) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and others for legislation to promote the transition to electric school buses. Transportation.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to promote a just transition to electric school buses.

*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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 section 37D the following section:-

3 Section 37D ½. The school committee in each city and town and each regional school  
4 district shall ensure that the school committee shall operate or contract for the operation of  
5 electric vehicles, as defined in section 1 of chapter 90, for the transportation of students with a  
6 priority for operating such vehicles on routes serving environmental justice populations as  
7 defined in section 62 of chapter 30. The school committees shall conduct robust community  
8 outreach and engagement with residents of environmental justice populations, municipal officials  
9 in cities and towns that have environmental justice populations and with transportation and  
10 environmental justice advocates. The school committees shall implement student transportation  
11 vehicle electrification no later than December 31, 2033 and meet the targets set forth in this  
12 section.

13           The board of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the commissioner  
14 of environmental protection, shall require that the transportation of students shall be conducted  
15 by electric vehicles according to the following deadlines: (i) 50 per cent by 2027; (ii) 75 per cent  
16 by 2030; and (iii) 100 per cent by December 31, 2033.

17           The commissioner of environmental protection and the board of elementary and  
18 secondary education shall, during the course of transition, record and publish anonymized data  
19 from a diverse sample of students and school districts both before and after their transition to  
20 electric vehicles, noting metrics of students' learning and behavior; students' street, census tract,  
21 and bus route; whether their transportation to school was in a personal or school vehicle; whether  
22 and when that vehicle was electric or another type of vehicle; and air pollution metrics at home,  
23 in the vehicle and at school.

24           The commissioner of public health shall support research and publish annual reports on  
25 the potential environmental health impacts of air pollution from school districts' existing non-  
26 electric vehicles on school bus drivers, students traveling to and from school on non-electric  
27 vehicles, and students residing on streets traveled by existing non-electric vehicles.

28           The school committees shall report annually beginning June 30, 2024 to the board of  
29 elementary and secondary education and the commissioner of environmental protection the  
30 progress of electrifying the vehicles used for the transportation of students. As part of the public  
31 reports, school committees shall explain the cost analysis of all procurements of fossil fuel  
32 infrastructure and the reasons for procuring internal combustion engines and fossil fuel  
33 infrastructure in lieu of electric vehicles and zero-emission infrastructure.

34 SECTION 2. Section 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
35 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Electric bicycles” the  
36 following definition:-

37 “Electric vehicles”, vehicles that rely solely on electric motors for propulsion and  
38 includes non-combustion vehicles.

39 SECTION 3. The board of elementary and secondary education shall establish a central  
40 planning and procurement office by August 30, 2024. The central planning and procurement  
41 office shall be tasked

42 with technical, planning, grant writing, procurement and worker retraining support for  
43 implementation of the electric vehicle bus rollout plans. The board’s central planning and  
44 procurement office shall create an electric vehicle rollout plan for the school district in each city  
45 and town and each regional school district by June 30, 2025.

46 Any employees who become unemployed as a result of the transition to electric vehicles  
47 from implementation of this act will be provided with free retraining options and hiring  
48 assistance to transition to another role. The employers of any labor required to design, build and  
49 maintain infrastructure related to electric vehicles will pay at least the prevailing wage, at a  
50 minimum remain neutral to unionization efforts, and be subject to project labor agreements,  
51 which shall not include restrictions on union activity or the free exercise of other collective  
52 action by workers.

53 The board of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the commissioner  
54 of environmental protection, shall identify sources of funding to support the implementation of  
55 the electric vehicle rollout plans and may pursue federal funding opportunities to support electric

56 vehicle penetration throughout the commonwealth in accordance with the requirements of  
57 chapter 21N.