

HOUSE No. 531

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Provost

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 authorizing the establishment of senior citizen safety zones.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>

HOUSE No. 531

By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 531) of Denise Provost and others for legislation to provide for the establishment of senior citizen safety zones in cities and towns. Elder Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 550 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act authorizing the establishment of senior citizen safety zones.

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 85 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 21A the following section:-

3 Section 21B. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a city or town
4 may establish, on ways within their control, one or more, senior citizen safety zones, which may
5 be an area adjacent to a facility, publicly or privately owned and used as senior citizen housing, a
6 hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility; a community center where senior activities are
7 conducted on a regular basis, or a congregate elderly residential facility.

8 A senior citizen safety zone may be established by a city council, the transportation
9 commission of the City of Boston, the board of selectmen, traffic commission, or traffic director,

10 in the manner set forth by municipal charter or other local law, in the manner set forth by
11 municipal charter or other local law, for the adoption of traffic rules, regulations, ordinances, or
12 bylaws. The locally-designated body charged with regulating traffic may take necessary action to
13 reduce vehicular speed by reducing speed limits to not less than 20 miles per hour or such lower
14 speed limit as is set for school zones and by installing signals or appropriate signs and restriping
15 roadways, and may adopt The traffic engineer may adopt and amend rules and regulations to
16 carry out this section.

17 The city or town shall notify the state traffic engineer upon the establishment of a senior
18 citizen safety zone, and shall notify the state traffic engineer of any reduction of speed on a
19 functionally classified local roadway.

20 This section shall not apply to any state highway, numbered route or functionally-
21 classified arterial.

22 SECTION 2. Section 17 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008
23 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “hour”, in line 15, the following
24 words:-

25 , or (5) within a senior citizen safety zone which may be established by a city or town as
26 provided in section 21B of chapter 85 at a rate of speed exceeding 20 miles per hour or such
27 lower speed limit as is set for school zones.

28 SECTION 3. Section 2 of chapter 85 of the general laws, as appearing in the 2008 official
29 edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the phrase “schools zones,” in line 35, the phrase
30 “senior safety zones.”