

SENATE No. 1931

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brian A. Joyce

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act creating a special commission to study alternatives to road and bridge tolling.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Brian A. Joyce

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY ALTERNATIVES TO ROAD AND BRIDGE TOLLING.

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. There shall be a special commission to investigate, study and evaluate all
2 methods to improve the efficiency, affordability and sustainability of the commonwealth's
3 infrastructure tax collection system in an equitable manner. The commission shall address, but
4 not be limited to, the application of distance dependent area pricing or per-mile user fees, open
5 road tolling and other means of collecting taxes related to transportation infrastructure. The
6 commission shall evaluate the available technologies, including but not limited to GPS units and
7 other such devices; address the feasibility and cost of implementation of a new tax collection
8 system, ease of use for drivers, applicability to out-of-state drivers, privacy concerns, pricing and
9 all

10 The special commission shall consist of the secretary of the executive office of transportation
11 and public works or his designee who shall serve as chairman; the commissioner of the
12 Massachusetts Highway Department or her designee; the House and Senate chairs of the
13 transportation committee; Executive Director of Massport or his designee. The commission will
14 also include at least one member of the academic community with expertise in transportation

15 systems, one member with expertise in transportation engineering and one member with
16 expertise in transportation technologies and or financing. The special commission may consult
17 with other government agencies, both federal and state, as well as members of the transportation
18 community and the general public.

19 The special commission shall submit a report, including any draft recommendations or
20 legislation to the House and Senate within 18 months of the day that this act is passed into law.