

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00229**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:  
***Richard J. Ross***  
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*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 Resolve:

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

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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>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>

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By Mr. Ross, petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 229) of Tarr, Knapik, Dykema and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide for an investigation and study relative to making exceptions to certain public school transportation laws [Joint Committee on Education].

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven  
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**RESOLVE Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to making exceptions to certain public school transportation laws**

Resolved,

1           Resolved, That a special commission is hereby established for the purposes of making an  
2 investigation and study relative to making exceptions to Massachusetts General Laws ch 71 § 68  
3 for certain towns in the Commonwealth. The commission will study 5 examples of towns  
4 throughout the Commonwealth, to be chosen by the legislative members of the commission in a  
5 meeting no later than 60 days after the effective date of this resolve, with certain characteristics:  
6 a historical character, a lack of sidewalks within a 2 mile radius of their schools and membership  
7 in a regional school district. The commission will be charged with determining if those towns  
8 have safe egress for children to get to school within that 2 mile radius and determine whether or  
9 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.