

SENATE No. 2297

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brendan P. Crighton

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 establishing a special commission to study the integration of fuel cell technology in public transit fleets.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Brendan P. Crighton

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Third Essex

SENATE No. 2297

By Mr. Crighton, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2297) of Brendan P. Crighton for legislation to establish a special commission to study the integration of fuel cell technology in public transit fleets. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act establishing a special commission to study the integration of fuel cell technology in public transit fleets.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there is
2 hereby established a special commission to study the integration of fuel cell electric vehicles in
3 public transit fleets as part of the statewide effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the
4 transportation sector.

5 (b) The commission shall investigate for purposes of determining the extent to which the
6 following may promote the development of fuel cell charging stations and fuel cell electric bus
7 and train fleets (i) state or federal programs and rebates that incentivize the public sectors to
8 purchase fuel cell electric vehicles (iii) state or federal programs that finance or govern the
9 development of fuel cell technology infrastructure (iv) international studies or best practices
10 from other states adopting fuel cell vehicles in public fleets and integrating fuel cell vehicle
11 charging infrastructure into their existing networks (v) the feasibility of public-private
12 partnerships to facilitate fuel cell electric bus and train fleet infrastructure development, fuel cell

13 electric vehicle market growth through public incentives, and increasing public awareness about
14 the benefits of fuel cell technology.

15 (c) Based on the commission's investigation of the topics outlined in (b), the commission
16 shall (i) highlight the projected impacts of adopting fuel-cell technology in public transit on
17 achieving the state's greenhouse gas emissions goals (ii) make recommendations, including a
18 plan and timeline, to further incorporate fuel cell technology in public transportation
19 infrastructure, and introduce fuel cell buses and trains into public transit fleets.

20 (d) Any plans proposed by this commission should prioritize the implementation of fuel
21 cell electric vehicle technology in environmental justice communities.

22 (e) The commission shall convene its first meeting within 45 days of the passage of this
23 act and shall submit its report and recommendations not later than 1 year after the passage of this
24 act.

25 (f) A copy of the report and recommendations shall be made publicly available on the
26 website of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and submitted to the joint committee
27 on transportation.

28 (g) Prior to issuing its recommendations, the commission shall conduct not fewer than 4
29 public hearings, at least 3 of which shall be held in environmental justice communities.

30 (h) The commission shall consist of: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee
31 on transportation, who shall serve as co-chairs; the secretary of the Department of
32 Transportation; the General Manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority; the
33 chair of the Fiscal Management Control Board of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation

34 Authority; a designee from each of the Regional Transit Authorities; the commissioner of the
35 Department of Energy Resources and the secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and
36 Environmental Affairs; the president of the senate or a designee; the speaker of the house of
37 representatives or a designee; the minority leader of the house of representatives or a designee;
38 the minority leader of the senate or a designee; the governor or a designee; 2 persons appointed
39 by the president of the senate with relevant subject matter expertise; 2 persons appointed by the
40 speaker of the house of representatives with relevant subject matter expertise; 2 persons
41 appointed by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus with relevant subject
42 matter expertise; and 2 persons appointed by the governor from organizations with relevant
43 subject matter expertise.

44 (1) Members shall not receive compensation for their services but may receive
45 reimbursement for the reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as
46 members of the commission.

47 (2) The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Regional Transit Authorities,
48 Department of Transportation, the Department of Energy, and the Executive Office of Energy
49 and Environmental Affairs shall furnish reasonable staff and other support for the work of the
50 commission.