

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1213**

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**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 relative to reporting on health effects of particulate matter.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>

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By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1213) of Denise Provost and others relative to the reporting on health effects of particulate matter. Public Health.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2040 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act relative to reporting on health effects of particulate matter.

*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: The following words and phrases as used in this section shall have the  
2 following meanings:-

3           “particulate matter” shall mean a broad class of chemically and physically diverse  
4 substances that exist as discrete particles in air

5           “fine particulate matter” shall mean particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5  
6 micrometers in diameter

7           “ultrafine particulate matter” shall mean particulate matter less than or equal to .1  
8 micrometers in diameter (.1 micrometers is equivalent to 100 nanometers)

9 SECTION 2: The center for environmental health of the department of public health shall  
10 conduct a comprehensive study of data on the health effects of particulate air pollution from  
11 surface transportation. The study shall focus on understanding the health impacts from fine and  
12 ultrafine particulate matter upon populations that are located within 500 feet of any roadway with  
13 50,000 or more motor vehicle trips per day, or any rail line regularly used by diesel locomotives;  
14 provided further, that the study shall include, but not be limited to, examining respiratory and  
15 cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment and cancer incidence that may be affected by  
16 exposure to surface transportation-related particles. The following departments and agencies of  
17 the commonwealth shall provide information to the center for environmental health of the  
18 department of public health relevant to this study: the department of environmental protection,  
19 the department of transportation (MassDOT), and the central transportation planning staff of the  
20 Boston metropolitan planning organization. The department of public health shall report its  
21 findings, or a progress report, together with any recommended response actions by the  
22 commonwealth to the house and senate committees on ways and means, to the Secretary of the  
23 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and to the Secretary of the Executive  
24 Office of Transportation, not later than two years after the adoption of this act; provided further  
25 that no less than \$250,000 shall be appropriated for this purpose.

26 SECTION 3:

27 Chapter 21A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 18A the  
28 following section:

29 Section 18B: The department of environmental protection in consultation with the  
30 department of public health shall promulgate regulations, based on the best available science,

31 establishing health risk assessment guidelines and exposure standards within the commonwealth  
32 for ultrafine and fine particulate matter. To ensure the accuracy and completeness of the  
33 assessment, the department's guidelines shall set forth standard procedures for conducting air  
34 dispersion modeling; obtaining dose-response values; estimating the frequency, duration, and  
35 intensity of exposure; and estimating both acute and chronic health risks. Exposure standards  
36 shall be based on the best available science. The Department of Environmental Protection will  
37 develop a plan for monitoring particulates so as to acquire data indicative of areas of greatest  
38 hazard to human health.