

HOUSE No. 5085

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 26, 2022.

The committee on Public Health to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1447) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Joanne M. Comerford, Jason M. Lewis, Carmine Lawrence Gentile and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by transportation pollution, and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2230) of Christine P. Barber, Mike Connolly and others for legislation to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities exposed to transportation pollution, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 5085) ought to pass.

For the committee,

MARJORIE C. DECKER.

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

An Act to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by transportation pollution.

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 department of environmental protection, in consultation with the
2 executive office of energy and environmental affairs and bureau of environmental health, shall
3 convene a technical advisory committee that shall consist of not less than 9 individuals, at least 1
4 of whom shall represent residents of environmental justice populations, as determined by the
5 Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, impacted by air pollution
6 living adjacent to a major highway, at least 1 of whom shall represent academics with expertise
7 in air monitoring, environmental health, air toxics and air pollution and at least 1 of whom shall
8 represent organized labor. The committee shall: (i) identify communities with high cumulative
9 exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria pollutants, including “ultrafine particles”
10 as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency; (ii) identify the likely air pollution hotspots
11 and corridors due to high concentrations of traffic-related air pollution throughout the
12 commonwealth that should be equipped with new or expanded air monitors; and (iii) establish
13 definitions for “air quality” and “air quality target pollutants” that shall include, but not be

14 limited to, consideration of criteria pollutants, black carbon and ultrafine particulate matter.

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16 Not later than June 30, 2023, the department of environmental protection shall
17 install and operate air monitors in not less than 8 air pollution hotspots or corridors that measure
18 at least 1 of each of the following pollutants: (i) black carbon; (ii) nitrogen oxides; and (iii)
19 ultrafine particulate matter. Not later than December 31, 2023, the department of environmental
20 protection shall establish baseline air quality in air pollution hotspots and corridors. Data from
21 the air monitors shall be publicly accessible and provide near-time information. The department
22 of environmental protection shall work with residents from environmental justice populations to
23 conduct participatory action research where residents can use mobile air sensors to expand the
24 number of locations where residents can track air quality.

25 The department shall convene the technical advisory committee by December 1,
26 2022.

27 The department of environmental protection shall file a report of the technical
28 advisory committee's findings, including the baseline air quality levels and recommendations to
29 reduce air pollution in those identified locations by 50 per cent below the baseline by December
30 31, 2030, with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint committee on
31 public health and the joint committee on environment, energy and natural resources not later than
32 June 30, 2024.