

**SENATE . . . . . No. 01790**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Karen E. Spilka*

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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 bill:

An Act assisting towns to create quiet zones for at-grade rail crossings..

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 01790

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By Ms. Spilka, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1790) of Walsh, Sannicandro and Spilka for legislation to assist towns to create quiet zones for at-grade rail crossings [Joint Committee on Transportation].

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ SENATE  
□ , NO. 1960 OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act assisting towns to create quiet zones for at-grade rail crossings..

*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 General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, are hereby  
2 amended by adding the following new chapter:

3 Chapter 161E

4 Section 1. Subject to appropriation, the Secretary of Transportation shall create a Quiet  
5 Zone Assistance Grant. Any public authority eligible to apply for the creation of a “Quiet Zone”  
6 as defined by the United States Secretary of Transportation under authority of 49 U.S.C. 20153  
7 may apply for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant for financial aid for the improvements necessary to  
8 create said Quiet Zone. Eligible improvements must meet the standards specified by 49 U.S.C.

9 20153 and the United States Secretary of Transportation for said Quiet Zones, and may include,  
10 but are not limited to, four-quadrant gate systems, gates with medians or channelization devices,  
11 one-way streets with gates, photographic enforcement, programmed enforcements, and public  
12 education and awareness programs. Any public authority may be eligible for a Quiet Zone  
13 Assistance Grant up to fifty percent of the total cost to implement a new Quiet Zone.