

HOUSE No. 623

By Representative Provost of Somerville and Senator Jehlen, joint petition of Denise Provost and others for legislation to provide for the establishment of senior citizen safety zones in cities and towns. Elder Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Denise Provost	Barbara A. L'Italien
Patricia D. Jehlen	Louis L. Kafka
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	John W. Scibak
Douglas W. Petersen	Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
John P. Fresolo	Gale D. Candaras
David B. Sullivan	James E. Timilty
James M. Murphy	Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Bruce J. Ayers	Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.
William N. Brownsberger	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SENIOR CITIZEN SAFETY ZONES.

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. Chapter 85 of the General Laws, as appearing in the
2 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section
3 21A the following section:—
4 Section 21B. Notwithstanding Section 2 of Chapter 85 of the
5 General Laws, a city may establish by ordinance, on public ways
6 under the care and custody of the city, a senior citizen safety zone,
7 which may be an area adjacent to a facility which may be publicly or
8 privately owned and used as senior citizen housing, a hospital,
9 nursing home or assisted living facility, a community center of
10 which senior activities are conducted on a regular basis or a congre-
11 gate elderly facility approved as a planned unit development by the
12 city.

13 In a senior citizen safety zone, the city may, by ordinance under
14 the direction of the traffic engineer, take necessary action to reduce
15 vehicular speed by reducing speed limits to not less than 20 miles
16 per hour or such lower speed limit as is set for school zones and by
17 installing signals or appropriate signs and re-striping roadways. The
18 traffic engineer may adopt and amend rules and regulations to carry
19 out this section.

20 The city shall notify the state traffic engineer upon the establish-
21 ment of a senior citizen safety zone. The city shall notify the state
22 traffic engineer of any reduction of speed on a functionally classified
23 local roadway.

24 This section shall not apply to any state highway, numbered route
25 or functionally-classified arterial.

1 SECTION 2. Section 17 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the word “hour”, in line 15, the following words:—
4 , or (5) within a senior citizen safety zone which may be estab-
5 lished by a city or town as provided in Section 21A of Chapter 85 at
6 a rate of speed exceeding 20 miles per hour or such lower speed
7 limit as is set for school zones.