

HOUSE No. 2227

By Representative Provost of Somerville and Senator Jehlen, joint petition of Denise Provost and others relative to reporting on health effects of particulate matter. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Denise Provost	William Lantigua
Patricia D. Jehlen	David B. Sullivan
Matthew C. Patrick	Martha M. Walz
Jennifer L. Flanagan	Ellen Story
William N. Brownsberger	Elizabeth A. Malia
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	Gloria L. Fox
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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
2 section shall have the following meanings:—
3 “particulate matter” shall mean a broad class of chemically and
4 physically diverse substances that exist as discrete particles in air.
5 “fine particulate matter” shall mean particulate matter less than or
6 equal to 2.5 micrometers in diameter.
7 “ultrafine particulate matter” shall mean particulate matter less
8 than or equal to .1 micrometers in diameter (.1 micrometers is equiv-
9 alent to 100 nanometers).

1 SECTION 2. The center for environmental health of the depart-
2 ment of public health shall conduct a comprehensive study of data
3 on the health effects of particulate air pollution from surface trans-
4 portation. The study shall focus on understanding the health impacts
5 from fine and ultrafine particulate matter upon populations that are
6 located within 500 feet of any roadway with 50,000 or more motor

7 vehicle trips per day, or any rail line regularly used by diesel loco-
8 motives; provided further, that the study may include, but not be lim-
9 ited to, examining respiratory and cardiovascular disease and cancer
10 incidence that may be affected by exposure to traffic-related parti-
11 cles. The following departments and agencies of the Commonwealth
12 shall provide information to the center for environmental health of
13 the department of public health relevant to this study: the department
14 of environmental protection, the executive office of transportation,
15 and the central transportation planning staff of the Boston metropol-
16 itan planning organization. The department of public health shall
17 report its findings, or a progress report, together with any recom-
18 mended response actions by the Commonwealth to the house and
19 senate committees on ways and means not later than December 31,
20 2007; provided further that no less than \$250,000 shall be appropri-
21 ated for this purpose.