

HOUSE No. 5042

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June 30, 2008.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill relative to reporting on health effects of particulate matter (House, No. 2227), report recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 5042).

For the committee,

ROBERT A. DELEO.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Eight.

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. As used in this section the following words shall,
2 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following
3 meanings:—

4 “Fine particulate matter”, particulate matter that is less than or
5 equal to 2.5 micrometers in diameter.

6 “Particulate matter”, a broad class of chemically and physically
7 diverse substances that exist as discrete particles in air.

8 “Ultrafine particulate matter”, particulate matter less than or
9 equal to .1 micrometers in diameter.

1 SECTION 2, Notwithstanding any general or special law to the
2 contrary, the bureau for environmental health within the depart-
3 ment of public health shall conduct a comprehensive study of data
4 on the health effects of particulate air pollution from surface
5 transportation. The study shall focus on understanding the health
6 impacts from fine and ultrafine particulate matter upon popula-
7 tions that are located within 500 feet of any roadway with 50,000
8 or more motor vehicle trips per day, or any rail line regularly used
9 by diesel locomotives; provided further, that said study may
10 include, but shall not be limited to, examining respiratory and car-
11 diovascular disease and cancer incidence that may be affected by
12 exposure to traffic-related particles. The following departments
13 and agencies of the commonwealth shall provide information to
14 the center relevant to this study: the department of environmental
15 protection, the executive office of transportation, and the central
16 transportation planning staff of the Boston metropolitan planning
17 organization. The center shall report its findings, or a progress

18 report, together with any recommended response actions by the
19 commonwealth to the house and senate committees on ways and
20 means not later than December 31, 2008.