

SENATE NO. 2067

AN ACT FACILITATING THE COMPLETION OF THE NEW BEDFORD/FALL RIVER COMMUTER RAIL EXTENSION PROJECT

*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 secretary of administration and finance shall execute a contract with the
2 Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority pursuant to section 53 of chapter 246 of the acts of
3 2002 within thirty days of the effective date of this act.

4 Section 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Authority shall make
5 the New Bedford/Fall River commuter rail expansion project described in section 53 a priority
6 project and shall ensure that the project is completed in a timely manner.

7 Section 3. If the secretary of administration and finance and the secretary of transportation and
8 construction determine that to achieve the goal of completing the New Bedford/Fall River
9 commuter rail expansion project described in section 53 and to limit the commonwealth's
10 operating expenses it is in the best interest of the commonwealth to defer temporarily the
11 contract assistance payments required by section 53, then the Authority is hereby authorized to

- 12 issue bonds in excess of the cost of the project to allow for payment of debt service for a period
- 13 of no more than three years.