

SENATE NO. 2088

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 of Massachusetts are hereby amended by adding the following
2 Chapter:
3 Chapter 161E § 1 – Subject to appropriations, the Secretary of Transportation shall create a
4 Quiet Zone Assistance Grant. Any public authority eligible to apply for the creation of a “Quiet
5 Zone” as defined by the United States Secretary of Transportation under authority of 49 USC
6 20153 may apply for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant for financial aid for the improvements
7 necessary to create said Quiet Zone. Eligible improvements must meet the standards specified
8 by 49 USC 20153 and the United States Secretary of Transportation for said Quiet Zones, and
9 may include, but are not limited to, Four-Quadrant Gate Systems, Gates with Medians or
10 Channelization Devices, One-Way Streets with Gates, Photographic enforcement, Programmed
11 Enforcements, and Public Education and Awareness programs. Any public authority may be
12 eligible for a Quiet Zone Assistance Grant up to fifty percent of the total cost to implement a
13 new Quiet Zone.