

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mary E. Grant

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to preserve the right of way for the North South Rail Link.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mary E. Grant

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

6th Essex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3496 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO PRESERVE THE RIGHT OF WAY FOR THE NORTH SOUTH RAIL LINK.

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. Section 1 of chapter 161C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding after the last sentence the following sentence:—

3 Furthermore, to carry out the purposes of this section, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall
4 preserve intact the right of way for the proposed North South Rail Link. This right of way is
5 extremely vulnerable to the impact of development and redevelopment around the existing rail
6 tracks and terminals. In addition, rail projects already in planning and construction phases will
7 exceed the capacity of the South Station terminal. Preservation of the right of way for the North
8 South Rail Link will assure that rail transportation can be enhanced or expanded in our region.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 161C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after
10 section 7 the following section:—

11 Section 8. This section requires the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through its executive
12 office of transportation and construction, in consultation with the Massachusetts turnpike

13 authority, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to perform a study to specifically identify
14 and map the necessary right of way to allow for the construction of the proposed North South
15 Rail Link connecting North Station to South Station. This study must include particular
16 reference to the Major Investment Study/Draft Environmental Impact Report (EOEA#10270),
17 prepared under the aegis of the executive office of environmental affairs which was concluded
18 on March 31, 2003. A plan to preserve said right of way, once identified, shall be determined
19 and implemented immediately.