

AN ACT RELATIVE TO BUSES

House bill 3602

Lead Sponsor: Representative Denise Provost

Support Legislation Establishing Right of Way for Buses Re-Entering a Traffic Lane

➤ **WHAT WILL THIS BILL DO?**

This bill will require motor vehicles to yield to buses re-entering traffic.

Right-of-way is to be yielded when:

- The bus is moving to reenter a lane after boarding or deboarding passengers at a bus stop, and
- The bus has directional signals flashing, and
- The bus has a yield right-of-way sign that is illuminated with a flashing light when it is trying to reenter a lane.

(H 3602 does not require transit agencies to install such yield right-of-way signs on buses.)

➤ **WHY IS THIS BILL NEEDED?**

Currently, it is often difficult for buses to re-enter a traffic lane after exiting the lane to board or de-board passengers. Unlike other states, such as California, Massachusetts has no provisions requiring drivers to yield to buses reentering lanes. By implementing such a requirement, this bill would reduce transit time of bus routes, and would help decrease the number of accidents involving pedestrians and automobiles.

➤ **WHAT AREA OF THE LAW WILL THIS BILL ADDRESS?**

This bill would amend Chapter 89 of the General Laws by adding a section 12. Chapter 89 deals with the laws of the road.

For more information, please contact the office of Representative Denise Provost.

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