

Research Reflections

In researching the legislative history of S. 2021, I looked at the timeline of the Act (<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/189/S2021>) in order to determine important dates in its history. Then I searched the Act, the bill number, and important dates on State House News. State House News only turned up three results on the Act: two committee score cards and an article. Both are reproduced in the legislative history file. I also found amendments, both proposed and rejected, on the Massachusetts legislature website along with votes, Senate and House journals, and the text of the bill. Additionally, I searched for the Act on Masstrac and found articles, press released, and both House and Senate floor debates regarding the act.

Next, I contacted members of the legislature to find more information on the bill. First, I contacted the House Committee on Ways and Means as it was listed as sponsoring one of the bill's amendments. A Ways and Means staffer recommended that I reach out to the Joint Committee on Transportation. I called the Joint Committee on Transportation and received Representative Straus's files on the bill, which included letters of support from constituents. These documents are attached as Appendix B. I also called the other senators and representatives who commented on the bill but did not receive documents from them. Finally, I went to the State House bookstore and copied the files that the legislature kept on S. 2021. These documents are attached as Appendix A.