

## Memorandum

To: Professor Sean Kealy

From: Kate Milligan and Joel Crespo

Subject: Senate, No. 2087 Legislative History Project

Date: September 30, 2009

### Brief History

Senator Baddour introduced the original bill in the Senate on 2/5/2009. Senate, No. 2087, a bill to reorganize and restructure transportation agencies in the Commonwealth passed in the Senate with 27 YEAS and 11 NAYS on 6/18/2009. The Governor signed it on 6/25/2009.

### Legislative History Collection

Collection of this bill's legislative history took place between 9/23/2009 and 9/29/2009. Kate Milligan and Joel Crespo from Boston University School of Law collected the information in order to create a legislative history for this bill. Most of the information found is accessible online:

**The State House website ([www.mass.gov/legis](http://www.mass.gov/legis)):** This website contained the bill's history, text and Senate Journal entries. We collected the text for three different versions of the bill, including the final version passed by the senate. Also included

are the Recommendations of the Massachusetts Transportation Finance Commission, which inspired the bill and the text of all of the amendments to Bill S2023. Additionally, the site provided access to Uncorrected Proofs of the Journal of the Senate. The Journal of the Senate transcribed and summarized many of the Senate's discussions and debates regarding the transportation bill. The Journal also listed how senators voted on the bill and subsequent amendments. The state house website is open to the public.

**State House News Service ([www.statehousenews.com](http://www.statehousenews.com)):** This site provided video footage and news entries regarding the bill. The video footage is a speech from State Secretary of Transportation Jim Aloisi in which he discusses the legislature's transportation reform bill on April 23, 2009. The audio is included. The State House News Service also had a wealth of information regarding the senate sessions. Including transcripts of senate sessions in which senators discussed the merits of the bill and news releases summarizing the current state of the transportation bill. Together the news releases chronicle the bill's journey through the legislative process. The State House News Service website is subscriber-only.

**LexisNexis and Westlaw:** These sites were useful to locate news articles that discussed the bill. The sites have access to articles from several news organizations. The news articles

discussed how and why the senate wanted to improve the transportation system. Most of the articles focused on how the bill would save Massachusetts money by streamlining the transportation system and reforming employee benefits. The articles came from a variety of sources including The Boston Globe, The Boston Herald, The Berkshire Eagle and The Lowell Sun. LexisNexis and Westlaw are subscriber-only websites.

**State House Library:** The state house library offered guidance on how to collect information. Their recommendations were to do online searches within the State House website, and the State House News Services as mentioned above.

**Persons and Entities Involved:** We collected the least amount of information from persons and entities directly involved in the bill. We contacted Senator Baddour's office, Senate Ways and Means Committee, Representative Joseph Wagner, House Ways and Means Committee, Executive Office of Transportation, and the Governor's office. None of them provided any information regarding the bill. The Governor's website did have a press release regarding the signing of the bill and that has been included in this legislative history. Unfortunately, we were unable to collect information from these entities about the testimony offered and therefore unable to recreate that testimony.