

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2612

By Mr. Lynch of Westfield, petition of Garreth J. Lynch and Alan D. Sisitsky for legislation to provide for the construction and equipping of an interchange, including toll house, toll facilities and toll equipment, and for the construction of an access highway connecting the Massachusetts Turnpike and Route 20 in the town of Becket. Transportation.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Three.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF AN INTERCHANGE, INCLUDING TOLL HOUSE, TOLL FACILITIES AND TOLL EQUIPMENT, AND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ACCESS HIGHWAY CONNECTING THE MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE AND STATE ROUTE 20 IN THE TOWN OF BECKET.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this Act would tend to  
2 defeat its purpose which is to provide vitally needed access to  
3 the Massachusetts Turnpike for residents of the Town of  
4 Becket and other communities of Berkshire and Hampden  
5 Counties, therefore it is declared to be an emergency law  
6 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety  
7 and convenience.

*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 department of public works, hereinafter  
2 referred to as the department, is hereby authorized and direc-  
3 ted to enter into a contract in behalf of the Commonwealth  
4 with the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority, hereinafter referred  
5 to as the Authority, for the design, construction and equipping,  
6 at the expense of the commonwealth, of an interchange,  
7 including necessary toll house, toll facilities, toll equipment,  
8 street lighting and utilities, and a suitable access highway,

9 connecting the Massachusetts Turnpike and state route 20 in  
10 the Town of Becket, hereinafter referred to as the project.

11 The department shall acquire by purchase or by exercise of  
12 the power of eminent domain such private or public land as it  
13 deems necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.  
14 The provisions of section (5) (q) of chapter 354 of the acts of  
15 1952, inserted by chapter 660 of the acts of 1971, to the  
16 contrary notwithstanding, the Authority shall make available,  
17 without cost to the Commonwealth, any land owned by the  
18 Authority, not needed for Turnpike purposes, and reasonably  
19 required for the construction of the project.

20 The contract shall provide, in addition to other details to be  
21 agreed upon by the department and the Authority:

22 (a) for the maintenance and operation by the Authority as a  
23 toll interchange, pursuant to chapter 354 of the acts of 1952,  
24 for a period of not less than five years, of so much of the  
25 project as is outside of the present or revised side lines of the  
26 access highway in the town of Becket; and for the maintenance  
27 of the rest of the project by the department as state highway;

28 (b) upon completion of the construction and installation of  
29 equipment, for the conveyance to the Authority, without cost  
30 to the Authority of so much of the project, including land,  
31 buildings, facilities and equipment, standing in the name of the  
32 Commonwealth as is to be maintained and operated by the  
33 Authority pursuant to (a) hereof;

34 (c) for design, construction and equipping of the toll house,  
35 toll facilities and toll equipment included in the project  
36 comparable to and consistent with toll houses, toll facilities  
37 and toll equipment at other interchanges on the Massachusetts  
38 Turnpike, including an emergency generator.

1 SECTION 2. In order to carry out the project authorized by  
2 this act, the department may expend such sums as may be  
3 appropriated therefor; provided, however, that no federal funds  
4 shall be expended on such project.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance  
2 by the Authority and the department.