

HOUSE No. 3145

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Natalie M. Blais

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act expanding community access to electric bicycles.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>Jennifer Balinsky Armini</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 3145

By Representative Blais of Deerfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3145) of Natalie M. Blais and others that the department of Energy Resources establish the community access to electric bicycles grant initiative. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act expanding community access to electric bicycles.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 25A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 11J. THE COMMONWEALTH COMMUNITY ACCESS TO ELECTRIC
3 BICYCLES GRANT INITIATIVE

4 (a) The department of energy resources shall establish THE COMMUNITY ACCESS TO
5 ELECTRIC BICYCLES GRANT INITIATIVE to help finance bike share programs and
6 ownership programs that municipalities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations administer.

7 (b) A local municipality, business, or nonprofit organization awarded money under the
8 grant initiative may use the money to purchase and maintain electric bicycles, equipment, and
9 infrastructure for its bike share program or ownership program, pay labor costs related to
10 implementation of the program, and cover the direct and indirect administrative costs that the
11 local municipality, business, nonprofit organization, or a third-party contractor incurs in
12 implementing the program.

13 (c) To be eligible to apply for money under the grant initiative, a municipality, business,
14 or nonprofit organization must administer themselves, or contract with a third party to
15 administer, a bike share program using a fleet of electric bicycles, or an ownership program
16 offering an electric bicycle to a specific individual or household.

17 (d) In administering the grant initiative, the department of energy resources shall
18 establish an application process for local municipalities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations
19 to apply for the money under the grant initiative. The department of energy resources shall
20 develop criteria for awarding grant money; giving priority to local municipalities, businesses,
21 and nonprofit organizations offering a program in one or more environmental justice or
22 disproportionately impacted communities.

23 (e) The department of energy resources shall require that local municipalities, businesses,
24 or nonprofit organizations provide at least a certain percentage of matching money for the
25 initiative.

26 (f) The department of energy resources shall develop periodic reporting requirements for
27 a grantee to demonstrate that the money awarded is being used in compliance with the purposes
28 of this section, as well as procedures for addressing a grantee's noncompliance with this section,
29 including procedures for reimbursement of money awarded.

30 (g) The department of energy resources may use up to ten percent of the money in the
31 fund to cover its direct and indirect costs incurred in administering the grant initiative in this
32 section.