



**Testimony in support of
S.2265 An Act creating a New Deal for Transportation in the Commonwealth
Submitted to the Joint Committee on Transportation
By Tanya Roy, LWVMA Specialist on Transportation
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The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts is a strong advocate of the comprehensive legislation to improve Massachusetts' transportation system as proposed in S.2265.

This comprehensive, omnibus legislation includes numerous policies to improve the state's transportation system, including additional revenue (higher gas tax, fees and data collection on transportation network companies such as Uber and Lyft), creation of new offices of Rail Enhancement (improved productivity, equity and environmental sustainability of rail system) and Bus Transformation (similar programs for bus network) within MassDOT, a congestion pricing commission, low-income transit fares, prohibition on MBTA fare increases until 2028, and revised MBTA governance.

LWVMA supports this legislation because it addresses multiple problems with our transportation system in Massachusetts and covers critical issues such as environmental injustice; inequitable, unaffordable and inconvenient access to public transportation; congestion; hampered economic productivity of workforce and businesses; climate change; underfunded regional transit authorities; and the need for creative financing solutions for local transportation projects.

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, representing 47 local Leagues across the Commonwealth from the Berkshires to Cape Cod, urges your support and passage of S.2265.

Thank you for your consideration.