

2019 -- H 5405

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- AUDIO AND VIDEO  
RECORDINGS

Introduced By: Representatives Filippi, Roberts, Lyle, and Nardone

Date Introduced: February 14, 2019

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND  
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 46.1

4 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

5 **42-46.1-1. Recordings to be made.**

6 (a) Every public school committee of any city, town or regional school district; and every  
7 city or town council; and every city or town zoning board of review shall make audio and video  
8 recordings of all open meetings and shall transmit the recordings of all open meetings, as defined  
9 in chapter 46 of this title, within forty-eight (48) hours of the meeting, to the office of the  
10 secretary of state.

11 (b) The secretary of state shall post the recordings of all open meetings recorded pursuant  
12 to this section on its website within one business day of receipt, and make the recordings  
13 available to the public in such format or formats as are commonly used for Internet transmission.

14 (c) This section shall not apply to public bodies whose responsibilities are solely advisory  
15 in nature.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- AUDIO AND VIDEO  
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1           This act would require audio and video recordings of certain open meetings of municipal  
2 government to be transmitted to the secretary of state's office. The secretary of state would be  
3 required to post recordings of these open meetings on its website and to be available for public  
4 access.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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