



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

***Raised Bill No. 5412***

LCO No. 2151



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL  
MEETINGS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 1-225 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2020*):

4 (d) Notice of each special meeting of every public agency, except for  
5 the General Assembly, either house thereof or any committee thereof,  
6 shall be posted not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting to  
7 which such notice refers on the public agency's Internet web site, if  
8 available, and given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of  
9 such meeting by filing a notice of the time and place thereof in the office  
10 of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state, in  
11 the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a  
12 political subdivision of the state and in the office of the clerk of each  
13 municipal member for any multitown district or agency. The secretary  
14 or clerk shall cause any notice received under this section to be posted

15 in his office. Such notice shall be given not less than twenty-four hours  
16 prior to the time of the special meeting; provided, in case of emergency,  
17 except for the General Assembly, either house thereof or any committee  
18 thereof, any such special meeting may be held without complying with  
19 the foregoing requirement for the filing of notice but a copy of the  
20 minutes of every such emergency special meeting adequately setting  
21 forth the nature of the emergency and the proceedings occurring at such  
22 meeting shall be filed with the Secretary of the State, the clerk of such  
23 political subdivision, or the clerk of each municipal member of such  
24 multitown district or agency, as the case may be, not later than seventy-  
25 two hours following the holding of such meeting. The notice shall  
26 specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be  
27 transacted. No other business shall be considered at such meetings by  
28 such public agency. In addition, such written notice shall be either  
29 delivered to the usual place of abode of each member of the public  
30 agency or sent electronically to an electronic mail address designated by  
31 the member so that [the same] such notice is received prior to such  
32 special meeting. The requirement of delivery of such written notice may  
33 be dispensed with as to any member who, at or prior to the time the  
34 meeting convenes, files with the clerk or secretary of the public agency  
35 a written waiver of delivery of such notice. Such waiver may be given  
36 [by telegram] electronically. The requirement of delivery of such written  
37 notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually  
38 present at the meeting at the time it convenes. Nothing in this section  
39 shall be construed to prohibit any agency from adopting more stringent  
40 notice requirements.

41 Sec. 2. Section 1-228 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

43 The public agency may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a  
44 time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a  
45 quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all members are absent  
46 from any regular meeting the clerk or the secretary of such body may  
47 declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and shall cause  
48 a written notice of the adjournment to be given or sent electronically in

49 the same manner as provided in section 1-225, as amended by this act,  
50 for special meetings, unless such notice is waived as provided for special  
51 meetings. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be  
52 conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the regular  
53 or special meeting was held, within twenty-four hours after the time of  
54 the adjournment. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to  
55 state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be  
56 held at the hour specified for regular meetings, by ordinance, resolution,  
57 by law or other rule.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	1-225(d)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	1-228

**Statement of Purpose:**

To amend the Freedom of Information Act to permit written notice of special meetings to be given electronically.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*