

# SENATE . . . . . No. 7

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Senate, January 17, 2017 -- Offered by Senator Bruce E. Tarr relative to forming a special senate committee to review and report on citizen engagement and participation in the legislative process

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Senate, January 17, 2017.

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**

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1           *Ordered*, that there shall be a special senate committee to review and report on citizen  
2 engagement and participation in the legislative process. The review shall include, but not be  
3 limited to: (i) senate session broadcasting, including streaming on the general court website, and  
4 broadcast or distribution to local cable access stations; (ii) remote access and participation by the  
5 public; and (iii) guidelines and standards for social media use by members and staff. The  
6 committee shall consist of 7 members of the senate: the majority leader and minority leader, who  
7 shall serve as co-chairs; 3 members appointed by the senate president; and 2 members appointed  
8 by the minority leader. The committee may consult with experts in broadcasting, media  
9 production and others as determined by the co-chairs in order to facilitate the committee's work.  
10 The committee may file an interim report; provided, however, that the committee shall file a  
11 final report of its findings with the clerk of the senate not later than June 1, 2017. The final report

- 12 shall include recommendations to increase citizen engagement and participation in the legislative
- 13 process and cost estimates, if any, to implement the committee's recommendations.