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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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A N A C T

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

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

Date Introduced: February 26, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

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) All public bodies, as defined in § 42-46-2, within state government and all state public
7 and quasi-public boards, agencies and corporations shall make audio and video recordings of all
8 open meetings of the body and shall transmit the recordings of all open meetings, as defined in
9 chapter 46 of this title, within forty-eight (48) hours of the meeting to the office of the secretary of
10 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 available
13 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

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1 This act would require audio and video recordings of all open meetings of state and quasi-
2 public agencies and bodies to be transmitted to the secretary of state's office. The secretary of state
3 would post recordings of all open meetings recorded pursuant to this requirement on its website to
4 be available for public access.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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