SENATE DOCKET, NO. 945 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 1624

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

An Act to provide for accountability and transparency in the finances of the Commonwealth..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce E. Tarr	☐ *[District]* ☐
Michael R. Knapik	☐ *[District]* ☐
James B. Eldridge	☐ *[District]* ☐
Randy Hunt	*5th Barnstable*
Mark C. Montigny	☐ *[District]* ☐
Richard T. Moore	☐ *[District]* ☐

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By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1624) of Bruce E. Tarr, Michael R. Knapik, James B. Eldridge, Randy Hunt and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide for accountability and transparency in the finances of the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
SENATE
, NO. *1455* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act to provide for accountability and transparency in the finances of the Commonwealth..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Definitions – For the purposes of this section, the terms below shall be defined as follows:

Entity – whether for-profit or not for profit,

a corporation

an association

a partnership

a limited liability corporation

a limited liability partnership

a sole proprietorship

any other legal business entity

a political subdivision of the Commonwealth

12 provided that an employee of the Commonwealth or an individual recipient of
13 assistance shall not be considered an entity.

14 State expenditure – an expenditure of state funds including grants, subgrants,
15 loans, awards, cooperative agreements, financial assistance, contracts, subcontracts, purchase
16 order, task orders and delivery orders, and excluding transactions below $25,000.

17 Searchable website – a website which allows the public to:

18 Search and aggregate state expenditures by any item identified in the definition of
19 website contained herein

20 Ascertain through a single search the total amount of state funding awarded to an
21 entity by fiscal year, and

22 Download information, including the results of searches.

23 Website – a searchable website which includes for each state expenditure:

24 The name of the receiving entity

25 The amount of the expenditure

26 Information describing the expenditure such as transaction type, funding agency
27 or program, and title descriptive of the purpose of the expenditure

28 The location of the entity receiving the expenditure and the primary location of
29 performance pursuant to the expenditure, including the city, state, country and legislative district

30 A unique identifier of the entity receiving the award and of any parent entity of
31 the recipient

32 Any other relevant information specified by the Operational Services Division.

33 SECTION 2. The Secretary of Administration and Finance, the Comptroller, the
34 Treasurer and the Operational Services Division are hereby authorized and directed to develop a
35 single searchable website, accessible by the public without cost, to enable the public to research
36 and examine state expenditures as defined herein. Said website shall be designed so as to
37 maximize utility, minimize cost and promote accessibility of information, and shall build upon
38 resources currently existing, including, but not limited to, the "EASI" website, so-called,
39 administered by the Executive Office of Administration and Finance, and the Comm-Pass
40 system, so-called, administered by the Operational Services Division of the Executive Office of
41 Administration and Finance.

42 In developing said website, the Secretary shall seek to obtain the use of coding
43 and other information management infrastructure developed by the federal government pursuant
44 to the "Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006".

45 Said website shall seek to provide information for Fiscal Year 2011 and
46 subsequent years.

47 A plan for the development and implementation of said website, together with any
48 estimates for funding required and other legislative recommendations, shall be filed with the
49 clerks of the House and Senate not later than November 30, 2011.