SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1544 FILED ON: 1/18/2013

SENATE . . . . . No. 975

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act further regulating town meeting notices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce E. Tarr	*First Essex and Middlesex*
Geoff Diehl	*7th Plymouth*
Ann-Margaret Ferrante	*5th Essex*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 975

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 975) of Bruce E. Tarr, Geoff Diehl and Ann-Margaret Ferrante for legislation to further regulate town meeting notices. Municipalities and Regional Government.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act further regulating town meeting notices.

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. Section 10 of chapter 39 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following paragraph:-

If a state of emergency is declared by the town's governing body, the moderator may:

(1) choose an alternative date for the town meeting or special town meeting without having to open the meeting with less than a quorum present and adjourning the meeting to a date, place and time certain; or

(2) re-start the posting process required under the open meeting law.

The provisions of this paragraph shall be subject to approval by a vote taken at an annual town meeting.