

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1457**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Nine**  
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An Act relative to the reform of the Executive Council..

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 11A of Chapter 30A of the General Laws is hereby amended in the  
2 first paragraph by inserting after the phrase “any part thereof,” the phrase “or the Executive  
3 Council”.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 30A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
5 Section 18 the following new section:-

6 “Section 19. Executive Council; Annual Reports; Website

7 Section 19. (a) The Executive Council shall issue an "Annual Report" to the Governor  
8 and to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary not prior to December 1 but not later than December  
9 31 of each year. The Annual Report shall include, without limitation, a synopsis of each vote  
10 taken by each of the members of the Executive Council, a study of its organization, rules and  
11 methods of procedure and practice, the work accomplished and the results produced by that  
12 system and those processes as adopted by the Executive Council from time to time and a plan for

13 implementation of recommendations by the Executive Council it intends to undertake to improve  
14 such organization, rules and methods of procedure and practice.

15           The Governor shall have 45 days from the date of submission to review the Annual  
16 Report and may require that the Annual Report be supplemented with additional and pertinent  
17 information germane to the subject matter of the Annual Report and the Constitutional charge of  
18 the Executive Council. If no comments are received by the Executive Counsel from the  
19 Governor within 45 days, then the Annual Report shall become final. If, within 45 days, the  
20 Governor submits comments to the Executive Council requiring revisions to the Annual Report,  
21 then the Executive Council shall have an additional 30 days to revise the Annual Report and re-  
22 submit such revised Annual Report to the Governor and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary,  
23 after which the Annual Report shall become final.

24           (b) The Executive Council shall establish and maintain its own official website. The  
25 content of the Executive Council's website shall contain, at minimum, such information  
26 including, without limitation, biographical information of each of its members to be updated no  
27 less frequently than immediately after the administration of the oath of office of each Executive  
28 Counsel member following each biannual election of its members and further, the website shall  
29 contain each Executive Council member's respective voting record to be published and updated  
30 on a monthly basis. The Executive Council shall also cause all records of its meetings, including,  
31 without limitation, all transcripts, questionnaires and other documentation used by the Executive  
32 Council in carrying out its duties along with a record of all votes taken and such other documents  
33 and records as required under the Open Meeting Law to be published on its official website no  
34 later than a date which is 30 days after the date of such meeting or vote is taken unless such date  
35 is a Saturday, Sunday or federal or state holiday and, in that case, the next day following on the

36 date when official business of the state is conducted in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.  
37 Additionally, the Executive Council shall publish on its website its final Annual Report within  
38 30 days after its submission or resubmission to the Governor and the Joint Committee on the  
39 Judiciary.”

40 SECTION 3. Section 2(b) of this act shall take effect twelve months after this passage of  
41 this act.