SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1057 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 1625

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Bruce E. Tarr*, (BY REQUEST)**

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 relative to open meetings..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce E. Tarr	
James B. Eldridge	

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By Mr. Tarr (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1625) of Bruce E. Tarr and James B. Eldridge for legislation relative to open meetings. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *1458* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to open meetings..

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 11A of Chapter 30A of the General Laws is hereby amended in the definition of "Governmental Body" by striking the phrase "but shall not include the general court or the committees or recess committees thereof".

SECTION 2. Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 29 the following new section:-

"Section 29A. Video Recording of Hearings.

Section 29A. The General Court shall ensure that a video recording is made of each public hearing of its committees and special commissions. Said recording shall be archived on the website of the General Court in a form easily accessible to the general public as soon as

10 reasonably feasible after the recording is made, and shall remain available on the website for at
11 least 24 months, after which it shall be preserved in the state library."

12 SECTION 3. The Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development shall designate
13 the organization known as Commonwealth of Massachusetts Free-Lance Media with the task of
14 establishing an independent media registry. Said registry's functions shall include, but not be
15 limited to, creating a statewide database of independent media and issuing identification cards to
16 members of the independent media. The designated organization shall, at any state agency's
17 request, provide any or all portions of the registry to said agency. The Secretary shall make this
18 designation not more than three months after the passage of this Act.

19 SECTION 4. Section 23B of Chapter 39 of the General Laws, as appearing in the
20 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended in line 119 by adding at the end of the paragraph the
21 following sentence:- "Members of the press and citizens recording proceeding shall be given
22 preference in attending public meetings and given a prepared location whenever possible."