

HOUSE No. 2662

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 regarding transparent budgeting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul W. Mark

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

2nd Berkshire

HOUSE No. 2662

By Mr. Mark of Peru, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2662) of Paul W. Mark that all meetings or caucuses convened by the General Court for the purposes of considering budget appropriations be open to the public. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act regarding transparent budgeting.

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 7H of Chapter 29 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following
2 new paragraph-

3 Notwithstanding the provisions of any House or Senate Rules, or Joint Rules, all
4 meetings or caucuses convened by the General Court for the purpose of considering budget
5 appropriations, whether submitted as general or special appropriations, to be paid from budgeted
6 revenues, shall be open to the public. No executive budget sessions or caucuses shall be held in
7 private. Budget amendments may be consolidated into subject matter areas, but all amendments,
8 including outside sections, shall be afforded an opportunity for debate, and shall be adopted or
9 rejected in a public setting by a voice vote or recorded roll call.