

2021 -- H 5894

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- AUDIO AND VIDEO  
RECORDINGS

Introduced By: Representatives Filippi, Newberry, Fenton-Fung, Speakman, Phillips,  
Fogarty, Kislak, Knight, Ackerman, and Shanley

Date Introduced: February 24, 2021

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND  
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 46.1

4 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

5 **42-46.1-1. Recordings to be made.**

6 (a) Every public body, as defined in § 42-46-2, of every state, city, town or regional district;  
7 shall live stream to the Internet all open meetings, as defined in chapter 46 of this title; post the  
8 video to its websites within twenty-four (24) hours of the meeting; and shall maintain a recording  
9 of said meeting for future viewing, and provide same to the office of the secretary of state. State  
10 public bodies shall include public bodies in the executive branch of state government.

11 (b) This section shall not apply to public bodies whose responsibilities are solely advisory  
12 in nature.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would require live streaming, over the Internet, of any open meeting of every  
2 municipal and state public body, including the executive departments. Video copies of the meeting  
3 would be required to be published within twenty-four (24) hours.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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