

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

Office of Town Clerk
Email: townclerk@burrillville.org



TOWN BUILDING
HARRISVILLE, R.I.

Phone: 401-568-4300, ext. 133
Fax: 401-568-0490
RI Relay 1-800-745-5555 (TTY)

Burrillville Town Council Resolution In opposition to Senate Bill S-2557 and House Bill H-7829 Mandatory Translation Services

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Burrillville believes in the tenets of the Open Meetings Laws of the State of Rhode Island and diligently seeks to comply with the requirements of the law; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Senate Bill S-2557 and House Bill H-7829 will create an extraordinary unfunded mandate by requiring, upon request, that the translation services be provided by any public body subject to the provisions of the Open Meetings Laws of the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, the overly simplistic bill, as proposed, fails to recognize the large number of languages and dialects employed by citizens and non-citizens of the state and nation that hundreds of large and small, local public bodies would be required to be responsive to with no controlling criteria to avoid the risk of costly burdens of compliance without consideration of whether the need is genuine or even initiated by a resident of the city, town or state; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Burrillville respectfully requests that the Leaders of the House and Senate, the entire Burrillville delegation and all of the General Assembly membership reject Senate Bill S-2557 and House Bill H-7829 as an excessive unfunded mandate being imposed on the cities and towns of the State of Rhode Island.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to every Rhode Island municipality and Burrillville's legislators requesting their support in opposition to this legislation.

Adopted as a resolution this 13th day of April 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald A. Fox".

Donald A. Fox, President
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicki T. Martin".
Vicki T. Martin, Town Clerk

105 Harrisville Main Street, Harrisville, RI 02830

TOWN COUNCIL

MAY 11 2022

MEETING

2022 -- H 7829

LC005409

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Introduced By: Representatives Felix, Morales, Barros, Kislak, Alzate, Giraldo, Slater,
Diaz, Cassar, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: March 04, 2022

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-46 of the General Laws entitled "Open Meetings" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 42-46-15. Translation and interpretation services.

4 (a) All public bodies shall develop a translation assistance plan setting forth the steps
5 necessary to ensure that all open meetings of said bodies shall have the proceedings accessible to
6 an individual in a language they understand upon request.

7 (b) The public body shall implement the translation assistance plan under this section by
8 September 1, 2023.

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

LC005409

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

- 1 This act would require public bodies to offer translation services for all open meetings of
- 2 said bodies.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

LC005409

2022 -- S 2557

LC004971

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Quezada, Acosta, DiPalma, Zurier, Kallman, Murray,
Sosnowski, Pearson, and Seveney

Date Introduced: March 04, 2022

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-46 of the General Laws entitled "Open Meetings" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 42-46-15. Translation and interpretation services.

4 (a) All public bodies shall develop a translation assistance plan setting forth the steps
5 necessary to ensure that all open meetings of said bodies shall have the proceedings accessible to
6 an individual in a language they understand upon request.

7 (b) The public body shall implement the translation assistance plan under this section by
8 September 1, 2023.

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

LC004971

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

- 1 This act would require public bodies to offer translation services for all open meetings of
- 2 said bodies.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

LC004971