

2023 -- H 5616

LC001046

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Introduced By: Representatives Felix, Stewart, Morales, Kislak, Alzate, Giraldo, Cruz,
Diaz, Henries, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: February 15, 2023

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, 2024.

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

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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.

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