

2026 -- S 2152

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS

Introduced By: Senators Bissaillon, Bell, DiMario, Urso, and Famiglietti

Date Introduced: January 16, 2026

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, 2027.  
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

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- 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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