TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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Burrillville Town Council Resolution in opposition to Senate Bill 2024 – S 2256 and House Bill 2024 – H 7181 Relating to Public Records – Access to Public Records Act

- WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in the General Assembly to make amendments to the Access to Public Records Act; and
- WHEREAS, the amendments would make many changes that may cause undue burdeon on cities and towns who already spend a lot of time fulfilling records requests; and
- WHEREAS, there must be a balance between the workload and actual costs imposed on a city or town and the rights of the citizens for information that is in the public interest; and
- WHEREAS, workload includes, but is not limited to, the actual time devoted to providing such records versus the duties and responsibilities the taxpayers of the jurisdiction expect from the staff who are paid by taxpayers to perform their normal duties and responsibilites; and
- WHEREAS, no compliance until individual legislators and their staff are required to comply with similar production of the records, including interactions with special interest and lobbying groups; and
- WHEREAS, the addition of the requirement that documents for public meetings be posted with or linked from agendas posted to the Secretary of State's website does not belong in the Access to Public Records Act, all regulations regarding public meetings should be within the Open Meetings Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville opposes Senate Bill 2024 – S 2256 and House Bill 2024 – H 7181.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville respectfully requests Burrillville legislators, the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Committee on State Government & Elections to oppose Senate Bill 2024 – S 2256 and House Bill 2024 – H 7181.

Adopted this 28th day of February 2024.

Donald A. Fox, President Burrillville Town Council

ATATEST:

Vicki Martin, Town Clerk