

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3205

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By Mr. Jones of North Reading (by request), petition of William C. Brown for legislation to require the presence of a quorum for the transaction of business by governmental bodies. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO OPEN MEETINGS OF GOVERNMENTAL BODIES  
WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A QUORUM.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 23B of chapter 39 of the General Laws, as appearing in  
2 the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after the  
3 sixth paragraph the following new paragraph:—  
4 A meeting for which notice is filed and posted under the pre-  
5 ceding paragraph shall not be convened in open or executive session  
6 unless and until a quorum of the governmental body is present. If  
7 such a quorum is not present within a reasonable amount of time  
8 after the time stated in the notice, the members then present may  
9 convene in open session for the sole purpose of scheduling a subse-  
10 quent meeting of the governmental body, and shall not deliberate  
11 any other matter. A meeting scheduled under this paragraph shall  
12 otherwise conform to the requirements of this section.