

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (BY REQUEST)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act Relative to Open Meetings of Governmental Bodies Without the Presence of a Quorum.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

William C. Brown

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

28 Martin Rd.
Reading, MA 01867

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3205 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

**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 1. Section 23B of chapter 39 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by adding after the sixth paragraph the following new paragraph:—

3 A meeting for which notice is filed and posted under the preceding paragraph shall not be
4 convened in open or executive session unless and until a quorum of the governmental body is present.
5 If such a quorum is not present within twenty minutes after the time stated in the notice, the members
6 then present may convene in open session for the sole purpose of scheduling a subsequent meeting of
7 the governmental body, and shall not deliberate any other matter. A meeting scheduled under this
8 paragraph shall otherwise conform to the requirements of this section.