

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Committee:

Principal Author:
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Bill No:

Delegation:

Title of Bill:

PDF/A Conversion Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT
ASSEMBLED, AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAME, AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 Preamble: Whereas the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is at capacity at all Massachusetts
2 storage facilities and archiving laws are behind those of other States, and the National
3 Archives and Records Administration (NARA). This law is seen as a foundation towards a
4 paperless commonwealth, by reregulating the Commonwealths archiving standard.
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- 6 SECTION 1: Let the archiving standard in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts be changed
7 from Microfilm, as stated in 950 CMR 39.00, to PDF/A, as stated in PC2009.
8 (1) Allowing Massachusetts a standard at which future developments can be made to
9 reduce paper.
10 (2) Allowing the public to easily view and research state archives via the internet, as
11 stated in PC2009, Section 4, (c).
12 (3) To set a standard by which private Massachusetts companies can follow.
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- 14 SECTION 2: Let the standards stated in PC2009 be a legal substitution for all paper records.
15 (1) To reduce the burden on Massachusetts storage facilities.
16 (2) To save the State storage costs accompanied by the storage of paper documents.
17 (3) Scanning of all state records with a retention period longer than 10 years as stated in
18 PC2009, Section 1.
19 (4) All paper records that have been converted to PDF/A, and are in accordance with the
20 standards set in PC2009, shall be destroyed.
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- 22 SECTION 3: Let all document scanning and conversion be done by Massachusetts Small
23 Businesses.
24 (1) All scanning must be done on-site by scanning companies that specialize in on-site
25 scanning, in order to reduce the movement of paper documents and to increase
26 document security.
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- 28 SECTION 4: Let there be a plan to convert all Microfilmed archives to PDF/A format.
29 (1) To make Massachusetts the most accessible and technologically advanced state in
30 the country, in terms of document accessibility, by allowing access to all
31 Massachusetts records, past and present, via the internet.
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- 33 SECTION 5: This bill shall go into effect 31 days after passage.
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