



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 6367

LCO No. 1729

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and
Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS IN FREEDOM
OF INFORMATION COMMISSION CASES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any
2 provision of the Freedom of Information Act or chapter 54 of the
3 general statutes, the Freedom of Information Commission may
4 authorize its executive director to enter into a written agreement with
5 a public agency alleged in an appeal pursuant to section 1-206 of the
6 general statutes to have violated a provision of the Freedom of
7 Information Act. The executive director may enter into such agreement
8 if the executive director finds that such agreement will rectify the
9 alleged violation or prevent repetition of the violation by such public
10 agency. No agreement shall be effective unless it is approved by the
11 commission after notice is given to all parties and an opportunity to
12 present written or oral objection to the proposed agreement is
13 provided. Upon the final approval of such agreement by the
14 commission the appeal shall be dismissed without a hearing.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To expedite the settlement of cases at the Freedom of Information Commission by permitting the commission to enter into settlement agreements with public agencies, without the consent of complainants but after notice and an opportunity to be heard, which agreements would rectify the alleged violations of the Freedom of Information Act or would prevent future violations of the act and would obviate the time and expense of holding evidentiary hearings.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]