

HB 1299 -- Open Meetings and Records Law

Sponsor: Lampe

This bill changes the laws regarding the Open Meetings and Records Law, commonly known as the Sunshine Law. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Creates a presumption in law that any meeting, record, or vote in any legal proceeding is open to the public with the burden on the governmental body or member of the body to prove that it should be closed to the public;

(2) Changes the standard for when a governmental body or a member of the body violates a provision of the Sunshine Law from who has knowingly violated to who has violated a provision of the law; and

(3) Increases, from up to \$1,000 to up to \$10,000, the civil penalty for a violation of the provisions of the Sunshine Law.