

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 27

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALSH.

0305H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 610.020, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to the sunshine law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 610.020, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 610.020 and 610.040, to read as follows:

610.020. 1. All public governmental bodies shall give notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting, and its tentative agenda, in a manner reasonably calculated to advise the public of the matters to be considered, and if the meeting will be conducted by telephone or other electronic means, the notice of the meeting shall identify the mode by which the meeting will be conducted and the designated location where the public may observe and attend the meeting. If a public body plans to meet by internet chat, internet message board, or other computer link, it shall post a notice of the meeting on its website in addition to its principal office and shall notify the public how to access that meeting. Reasonable notice shall include making available copies of the notice to any representative of the news media who requests notice of meetings of a particular public governmental body concurrent with the notice being made available to the members of the particular governmental body ~~[and]~~ , **posting the notice on the governmental body's website and social media pages, and** posting the notice on a bulletin board or other prominent place which is easily accessible to the public and clearly designated for that purpose at the principal office of the body holding the meeting, or if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held.

2. Notice conforming with all of the requirements of subsection 1 of this section shall be given at least twenty-four hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays when the facility is

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 closed, prior to the commencement of any meeting of a governmental body unless for good cause
19 such notice is impossible or impractical, in which case as much notice as is reasonably possible
20 shall be given. Each meeting shall be held at a place reasonably accessible to the public and of
21 sufficient size to accommodate the anticipated attendance by members of the public, and at a
22 time reasonably convenient to the public, unless for good cause such a place or time is
23 impossible or impractical. Every reasonable effort shall be made to grant special access to the
24 meeting to handicapped or disabled individuals.

25 3. A public body shall allow for the recording by audiotape, videotape, or other
26 electronic means of any open meeting. A public body may establish guidelines regarding the
27 manner in which such recording is conducted so as to minimize disruption to the meeting. No
28 audio recording of any meeting, record, or vote closed pursuant to the provisions of section
29 610.021 shall be permitted without permission of the public body; any person who violates this
30 provision shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

31 4. When it is necessary to hold a meeting on less than twenty-four hours' notice, or at a
32 place that is not reasonably accessible to the public, or at a time that is not reasonably convenient
33 to the public, the nature of the good cause justifying that departure from the normal requirements
34 shall be stated in the minutes.

35 5. A formally constituted subunit of a parent governmental body may conduct a meeting
36 without notice as required by this section during a lawful meeting of the parent governmental
37 body, a recess in that meeting, or immediately following that meeting, if the meeting of the
38 subunit is publicly announced at the parent meeting and the subject of the meeting reasonably
39 coincides with the subjects discussed or acted upon by the parent governmental body.

40 6. If another provision of law requires a manner of giving specific notice of a meeting,
41 hearing or an intent to take action by a governmental body, compliance with that section shall
42 constitute compliance with the notice requirements of this section.

43 7. A journal or minutes of open and closed meetings shall be taken and retained by the
44 public governmental body, including, but not limited to, a record of any votes taken at such
45 meeting. The minutes shall include the date, time, place, members present, members absent and
46 a record of any votes taken. When a roll call vote is taken, the minutes shall attribute each "yea"
47 and "nay" vote or abstinence if not voting to the name of the individual member of the public
48 governmental body. **All minutes of open meetings shall be posted on the public**
49 **governmental body's website and social media pages.**

610.040. 1. A public governmental body shall post any proposed rules, ordinances,
2 **laws, or regulations to the public governmental body's website and social media pages**
3 **within twenty-four hours after the meeting at which they are proposed, exclusive of**
4 **weekends and holidays when the office of the public governmental body is closed.**

5 **2. If the rules, ordinances, laws, or regulations are adopted by the public**
6 **governmental body, notice of the adoption and the final text of the rule, ordinance, law, or**
7 **regulation shall be posted to the public governmental body's website and social media**
8 **pages within twenty-four hours of adoption, exclusive of weekends and holidays when the**
9 **office of the public governmental body is closed.**

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