

Bill Summary H.F. 1140 First division engrossment

Subject Open Meeting Law technological updates

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Summary

This bill updates various provisions of the Open Meeting Law (OML) under chapter 13D to reflect modern technology used for remote meetings of public bodies. The defined term "interactive technology" replaces references to interactive television and other electronic means. Language permitting a public body to charge for costs incurred for remotely connecting to a meeting is removed throughout chapter 13D. Section 13D.021 is also amended to provide that members of the public are permitted to comment from a remote location during a public comment period of a meeting of a public body subject to the OML if in-person attendance is not feasible due to a health pandemic or emergency.

Section 13D.01 is amended to provide that the votes on an action taken in a public meeting may be recorded in the minutes, and such minutes are open to the public.

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