

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 74

(SENATE AUTHORS: MARTY, Cwodzinski, Port, Putnam and Fateh)

DATE
01/14/2021

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to State Government Finance and Policy and Elections

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the legislature; requiring conference committee and budget negotiations
1.3 to be open to the public; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 3.055,
1.4 subdivision 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 3.055, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Meetings to be open.** (a) Meetings of the legislature shall be open to the
1.8 public, including sessions of the senate, sessions of the house of representatives, joint
1.9 sessions of the senate and the house of representatives, and meetings of a standing committee,
1.10 committee division, subcommittee, conference committee, or legislative commission, but
1.11 not including a caucus of the members of any of those bodies from the same house and
1.12 political party nor a delegation of legislators representing a geographic area or political
1.13 subdivision. For purposes of this section, a meeting occurs when a quorum is present and
1.14 action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the body.

1.15 (b) In addition to the openness requirements imposed on conference committees by
1.16 paragraph (a), from the time a conference committee is appointed until it is disbanded, any
1.17 negotiations between senate and house of representatives members of the conference
1.18 committee or senate and house of representatives staff members related to the conference
1.19 committee or the bill referred to the conference committee must be open to the public.

1.20 (c) A meeting between the majority leader of the senate and the speaker of the house or
1.21 the majority leader of the house of representatives to negotiate budget targets or formally
1.22 negotiate the state budget must be open to the public.

2.1 (d) A meeting to negotiate budget targets or formally negotiate the state budget must be
2.2 open to the public if the meeting includes the governor and one or more of the following
2.3 members of the legislature:

2.4 (1) the majority leader of the senate;

2.5 (2) the speaker of the house or majority leader of the house of representatives; or

2.6 (3) the minority leader of either the senate or house of representatives.

2.7 (e) Each house shall provide by rule for posting notices of meetings, recording
2.8 proceedings, and making the recordings and votes available to the public.