

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
5 FOR  
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 1725

By: Osborn of the House

and

Sykes of the Senate

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10                                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11                   An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act;  
12                   amending 25 O.S. 2011, Section 304, which relates to  
13                   definitions; modifying definitions; and providing an  
14                   effective date.

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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17                   SECTION 1.           AMENDATORY           25 O.S. 2011, Section 304, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19                   Section 304. As used in the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act:

20                   1. "Public body" means the governing bodies of all  
21 municipalities located within this state, boards of county  
22 commissioners of the counties in this state, boards of public and  
23 higher education in this state and all boards, bureaus, commissions,  
24 agencies, trusteeships, authorities, councils, committees, public

1 trusts or any entity created by a public trust, including any  
2 committee or subcommittee composed of any of the members of a public  
3 trust or other legal entity receiving funds from the Rural Economic  
4 Action Plan Fund as authorized by Section 2007 of Title 62 of the  
5 Oklahoma Statutes, task forces or study groups in this state  
6 supported in whole or in part by public funds or entrusted with the  
7 expending of public funds, or administering public property, and  
8 shall include all committees or subcommittees of any public body.  
9 Public body shall not include the state judiciary, the Council on  
10 Judicial Complaints when conducting, discussing, or deliberating any  
11 matter relating to a complaint received or filed with the Council,  
12 the Workers' Compensation Commission, when deliberating any appeal  
13 before the Commission en banc, the Legislature, or administrative  
14 staffs of public bodies, including, but not limited to, faculty  
15 meetings and athletic staff meetings of institutions of higher  
16 education when those staffs are not meeting with the public body, or  
17 entry-year assistance committees. Furthermore, public body shall  
18 not include the multidisciplinary team provided for in subsection C  
19 of Section 1-502.2 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes or any  
20 school board meeting for the sole purpose of considering  
21 recommendations of a multidisciplinary team and deciding the  
22 placement of any child who is the subject of the recommendations.  
23 Furthermore, public body shall not include meetings conducted by  
24 stewards designated by the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission pursuant

1 to Section 203.4 of Title 3A of the Oklahoma Statutes when the  
2 stewards are officiating at races or otherwise enforcing rules of  
3 the Commission;

4 2. "Meeting" means the conduct of business of a public body by  
5 a majority of its members being personally together or, as  
6 authorized by Section 307.1 of this title, together pursuant to a  
7 videoconference. Meeting shall not include informal gatherings of a  
8 majority of the members of the public body when no business of the  
9 public body is discussed, or in-state education or training programs  
10 or seminars attended by a majority of the members of the public body  
11 when no decision is made pertaining to the business of the public  
12 body;

13 3. "Regularly scheduled meeting" means a meeting at which the  
14 regular business of the public body is conducted;

15 4. "Special meeting" means any meeting of a public body other  
16 than a regularly scheduled meeting or emergency meeting;

17 5. "Emergency meeting" means any meeting called for the purpose  
18 of dealing with an emergency. For purposes of the Oklahoma Open  
19 Meeting Act, an emergency is defined as a situation involving injury  
20 to persons or injury and damage to public or personal property or  
21 immediate financial loss when the time requirements for public  
22 notice of a special meeting would make such procedure impractical  
23 and increase the likelihood of injury or damage or immediate  
24 financial loss;

1           6. "Continued or reconvened meeting" means a meeting which is  
2 assembled for the purpose of finishing business appearing on an  
3 agenda of a previous meeting. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Open  
4 Meeting Act, only matters on the agenda of the previous meeting at  
5 which the announcement of the continuance is made may be discussed  
6 at a continued or reconvened meeting; and

7           7. "Videoconference" means a conference among members of a  
8 public body remote from one another who are linked by interactive  
9 telecommunication devices permitting both visual and auditory  
10 communication between and among members of the public body and  
11 members of the public. During any videoconference both the visual  
12 and auditory communications functions of the device shall be  
13 utilized. Whenever the term "teleconference" appears in any law in  
14 relation to a meeting of a public body, it shall be deemed to mean a  
15 videoconference as defined in this paragraph.

16           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND  
19 ACCOUNTABILITY, dated 02/18/2015 - DO PASS, As Amended and  
20 Coauthored.  
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