

State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 213

SENATE BILL NO. 27

By Gardenhire, Haile, Yager

Substituted for: House Bill No. 23

By Moon, Todd, Helton-Haynes, Jernigan, Rudder, Farmer, Faison, Greg Martin, Lamberth, Grills, Bricken, Vital, Eldridge, Wright, Clemmons, Howell, Ragan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, relative to public meetings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a)(1) At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to a meeting, a local government legislative body shall make available to the public, at no charge, the agenda for the upcoming meeting in a place accessible to the public. The agenda must reasonably describe the matters to be deliberated or acted upon during the public meeting.

(2) A local government legislative body may deliberate or act upon matters not listed on the agenda if the local government legislative body follows its bylaws or properly adopted rules and procedures and complies with all other applicable state laws.

(b) A local government legislative body shall not circumvent the spirit or requirements of this section by withholding items from an agenda for the purpose of avoiding public disclosure of business to be considered by the legislative body.

(c) A local government legislative body that maintains a website may make an agenda available to the public through the website. The local government legislative body's website is considered a place that is accessible to the public for purposes of compliance with subsection (a).

(d) As used in this section, "local government" means an incorporated city or town, metropolitan government, or county.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.


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PASSED: April 10, 2023


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 25th day of April 2023


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR