

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 770

By: Sykes

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act;
8 amending 25 O.S. 2011, Section 304, which relates to
9 definitions; modifying certain definition; and
10 providing an effective date.

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

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

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

15 1. "Public body" means the governing bodies of all
16 municipalities located within this state, boards of county
17 commissioners of the counties in this state, boards of public and
18 higher education in this state and all boards, bureaus, commissions,
19 agencies, trusteeships, authorities, councils, committees, public
20 trusts or any entity created by a public trust, including any
21 committee or subcommittee composed of any of the members of a public
22 trust or other legal entity receiving funds from the Rural Economic
23 Action Plan Fund as authorized by Section 2007 of Title 62 of the
24 Oklahoma Statutes, task forces or study groups in this state

1 supported in whole or in part by public funds or entrusted with the
2 expending of public funds, or administering public property, and
3 shall include all committees or subcommittees of any public body,
4 and shall include the Judicial Nominating Commission. Public body
5 shall not include the state judiciary, the Council on Judicial
6 Complaints when conducting, discussing, or deliberating any matter
7 relating to a complaint received or filed with the Council, the
8 Legislature, or administrative staffs of public bodies, including,
9 but not limited to, faculty meetings and athletic staff meetings of
10 institutions of higher education when those staffs are not meeting
11 with the public body, or entry-year assistance committees.

12 Furthermore, public body shall not include the multidisciplinary
13 team provided for in subsection C of Section 1-502.2 of Title 63 of
14 the Oklahoma Statutes or any school board meeting for the sole
15 purpose of considering recommendations of a multidisciplinary team
16 and deciding the placement of any child who is the subject of the
17 recommendations. Furthermore, public body shall not include
18 meetings conducted by stewards designated by the Oklahoma Horse
19 Racing Commission pursuant to Section 203.4 of Title 3A of the
20 Oklahoma Statutes when the stewards are officiating at races or
21 otherwise enforcing rules of the Commission;

22 2. "Meeting" means the conduct of business of a public body by
23 a majority of its members being personally together or, as
24 authorized by Section 307.1 of this title, together pursuant to a

1 videoconference. Meeting shall not include informal gatherings of a
2 majority of the members of the public body when no business of the
3 public body is discussed;

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

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

8 5. "Emergency meeting" means any meeting called for the purpose
9 of dealing with an emergency. For purposes of the Oklahoma Open
10 Meeting Act, an emergency is defined as a situation involving injury
11 to persons or injury and damage to public or personal property or
12 immediate financial loss when the time requirements for public
13 notice of a special meeting would make such procedure impractical
14 and increase the likelihood of injury or damage or immediate
15 financial loss;

16 6. "Continued or reconvened meeting" means a meeting which is
17 assembled for the purpose of finishing business appearing on an
18 agenda of a previous meeting. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Open
19 Meeting Act, only matters on the agenda of the previous meeting at
20 which the announcement of the continuance is made may be discussed
21 at a continued or reconvened meeting; and

22 7. "Videoconference" means a conference among members of a
23 public body remote from one another who are linked by interactive
24 telecommunication devices permitting both visual and auditory

1 communication between and among members of the public body and
2 members of the public. During any videoconference both the visual
3 and auditory communications functions of the device shall be
4 utilized. Whenever the term "teleconference" appears in any law in
5 relation to a meeting of a public body, it shall be deemed to mean a
6 videoconference as defined in this paragraph.

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

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