

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3415
Version:	FA1 (Floor Substitute)
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Fugate
Date:	3/22/2022
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

FA1 to HB 3415 defines "public health emergency" as used in the Open Meeting Act. The measure modifies the definition of "videoconference" to include the capability for public comment. The measure allows a public body to hold meetings and executive sessions by electronic means. Members of public bodies, excluding members serving on a virtual charter school, are prohibited from participating in more than one-quarter of the regular or special meetings electronically in any floating 12 month period. Private electronic communications concerning public business is prohibited during a public meeting by members of the governing body. Meetings are to be public and must indicate if the meeting includes electronic or in-person participation, including the telephone number and/or the electronic source that may be utilized to access the meeting so that the public may participate. The requirement of an in-person meeting location may be suspended statewide during a state of emergency declared by the Governor, or during a locally declared state of emergency by a mayor, school board president, or chairman of a board of county commissioners.

Prepared By: House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

HB 3415 makes modifications to the Open Meetings Act, permitting certain electronic participation. The changes are generally permissive in nature and provide additional options, as opposed to mandated changes. For this reason the measure is not expected to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget or state revenues.

Prepared By: John McPhetridge

Other Considerations

None.