

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 1736

By: Weaver of the Senate

and

Lawson of the House

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6 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act;  
7 amending 25 O.S. 2021, Section 304, as amended by  
8 Section 1, Chapter 123, O.S.L. 2022 (25 O.S. Supp.  
9 2023, Section 304), which relates to definitions;  
10 modifying definition; and declaring an emergency.

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

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 25 O.S. 2021, Section 304, as  
13 amended by Section 1, Chapter 123, O.S.L. 2022 (25 O.S. Supp. 2023,  
14 Section 304), is amended to read as follows:

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

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

1 Oklahoma Statutes, task forces or study groups in this state  
2 supported in whole or in part by public funds or entrusted with the  
3 expending of public funds, or administering public property, and  
4 shall include all committees or subcommittees of any public body.

5 Public body shall not include:

6 a. the state judiciary,

7 b. the Council on Judicial Complaints when conducting,  
8 discussing, or deliberating any matter relating to a  
9 complaint received or filed with the Council,

10 c. the Legislature, ~~or~~

11 d. administrative staffs of public bodies including, but  
12 not limited to, faculty meetings and athletic staff  
13 meetings of institutions of higher education when  
14 those staffs are not meeting with the public body, or  
15 entry-year assistance committees. ~~Furthermore, public~~  
16 ~~body shall not include the,~~

17 e. multidisciplinary teams provided for in Section 1-9-  
18 102 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes, in Section  
19 ~~2~~ 10-115 of this act Title 43A of the Oklahoma  
20 Statutes, and in subsection C of Section 1-502.2 of  
21 Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes or any school board  
22 meeting for the sole purpose of considering  
23 recommendations of a multidisciplinary team and  
24 deciding the placement of any child who is the subject

1 of the recommendations. ~~Furthermore, public body~~  
2 ~~shall not include,~~

3 f. meetings conducted by stewards designated by the  
4 Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission pursuant to Section  
5 203.4 of Title 3A of the Oklahoma Statutes when the  
6 stewards are officiating at races or otherwise  
7 enforcing rules of the Commission. ~~Furthermore,~~  
8 ~~public body shall not include,~~

9 g. the board of directors of a Federally Qualified Health  
10 Center, or

11 h. the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision  
12 established pursuant to Section 2-9-116 of Title 10A  
13 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

14 2. "Meeting" means the conduct of business of a public body by  
15 a majority of its members being personally together or, as  
16 authorized by Section 307.1 of this title, together pursuant to a  
17 videoconference. Meeting shall not include informal gatherings of a  
18 majority of the members of the public body when no business of the  
19 public body is discussed;

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

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

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

9           6. "Continued or reconvened meeting" means a meeting which is  
10 assembled for the purpose of finishing business appearing on an  
11 agenda of a previous meeting. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Open  
12 Meeting Act, only matters on the agenda of the previous meeting at  
13 which the announcement of the continuance is made may be discussed  
14 at a continued or reconvened meeting;

15           7. "Videoconference" means a conference among members of a  
16 public body remote from one another who are linked by interactive  
17 telecommunication devices or technology and/or technology permitting  
18 both visual and auditory communication between and among members of  
19 the public body and/or between and among members of the public body  
20 and members of the public. During any videoconference, both the  
21 visual and auditory communications functions shall attempt to be  
22 utilized; and

23           8. "Teleconference" means a conference among members of a  
24 public body remote from one another who are linked by

1 telecommunication devices and/or technology permitting auditory  
2 communication between and among members of the public body and/or  
3 between and among members of the public body and members of the  
4 public.

5 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
6 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

9 Passed the Senate the 5th day of March, 2024.

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11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 Presiding Officer of the Senate

13 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
14 2024.

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17 Presiding Officer of the House  
18 of Representatives