

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1420

By: Mann

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; amending 25 O.S. 2021, Section 311, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, O.S.L. 2024 (25 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 311), which relates to notice; permitting public bodies to provide opportunity for public comment; authorizing certain limitations on public comment; updating statutory language; updating statutory references; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 25 O.S. 2021, Section 311, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, O.S.L. 2024 (25 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 311), is amended to read as follows:

Section 311. A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, all regularly scheduled, continued or reconvened, special or emergency meetings of public bodies shall be preceded by public notice as follows:

1. All public bodies shall give notice in writing by December 15 of each calendar year of the schedule showing the date, time and place of the regularly scheduled meetings of such public bodies for the following calendar year;

1 2. All state public bodies including, but not limited to,
2 public trusts and other bodies with the state as beneficiary, shall
3 give such notice to the Secretary of State;

4 3. All county public bodies including, but not limited to,
5 public trusts and any other bodies with the county as beneficiary,
6 shall give such notice to the county clerk of the county wherein
7 they are principally located;

8 4. All municipal public bodies including, but not limited to,
9 public trusts and any other bodies with the municipality as
10 beneficiary, shall give such notice to the municipal clerk of the
11 municipality wherein they are principally located;

12 5. All multicounty, regional, ~~areawide~~ area-wide or district
13 public bodies including, but not limited to, district boards of
14 education, shall give such notice to the county clerk of the county
15 wherein they are principally located, or if no office exists, to the
16 county clerk of the county or counties served by such public body;

17 6. All governing boards of state institutions of higher
18 education, and committees and subcommittees thereof, shall give such
19 notice to the Secretary of State. All other public bodies covered
20 by the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act which exist under
21 the auspices of a state institution of higher education, but a
22 majority of whose members are not members of the institution's
23 governing board, shall give such notice to the county clerk of the
24 county wherein the institution is principally located;

1 7. The Secretary of State and each county clerk or municipal
2 clerk shall keep a record of all notices received in a register open
3 to the public for inspection during regular office hours, and, in
4 addition, shall make known upon any request of any person the
5 contents of the register;

6 8. If any change is to be made of the date, time or place of
7 regularly scheduled meetings of public bodies, then notice in
8 writing shall be given to the Secretary of State or county clerk or
9 municipal clerk, as required herein, not less than ten (10) days
10 prior to the implementation of any such change;

11 9. a. In addition to the advance public notice in writing
12 required to be filed for regularly scheduled meetings,
13 described in paragraph 1 of this subsection, all
14 public bodies shall, at least twenty-four (24) hours
15 prior to such regularly scheduled meetings, display
16 public notice of the meeting by at least one of the
17 following methods:

18 (1) by posting information that includes the date,
19 time, place and agenda for the meeting in
20 prominent public view at the principal office of
21 the public body or at the location of the meeting
22 if no office exists, or

23 (2) by posting on the public body's Internet website
24 the date, time, place and agenda for the meeting

1 in accordance with Section ~~3106.2~~ 311.1 of Title
2 ~~74~~ 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Additionally,
3 the public body shall offer and consistently
4 maintain an email distribution system for
5 distribution of such notice of a public meeting
6 required by this subsection, and any person may
7 request to be included without charge, and their
8 request shall be accepted. The emailed notice of
9 a public meeting required by this subsection
10 shall include in the body of the email or as an
11 attachment to the email the date, time, place and
12 agenda for the meeting and it shall be sent no
13 less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the
14 meeting. Additionally, the public body shall
15 make the notice of a public meeting required by
16 this subsection available to the public in the
17 principal office of the public body or at the
18 location of the meeting during normal business
19 hours at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to
20 the meeting.

- 21 b. In addition to the notice requirements of this
22 section, all state public bodies, as ~~defined~~ provided
23 in paragraph 2 of this subsection, shall, at least
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1 twenty-four (24) hours prior to regularly scheduled
2 meetings, display public notice of the meeting by:

- 3 (1) posting information that includes the date, time,
4 place and agenda for the meeting in prominent
5 public view at the principal office of the public
6 body or at the location of the meeting if no
7 office exists, and
8 (2) posting on the public body's Internet website the
9 date, time, place and agenda for the meeting in
10 accordance with Section ~~3106.2~~ 311.1 of Title 74
11 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

12 10. The twenty-four (24) hours required in paragraph 9 of this
13 subsection shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays and holidays legally
14 declared by the State of Oklahoma. The posting or distribution of a
15 notice of a public meeting as described in paragraph 9 of this
16 subsection shall not preclude a public body from considering at its
17 regularly scheduled meeting any new business. "New business", as
18 used herein, shall mean any matter not known about or which could
19 not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of the posting;

20 11. In the event any meeting is to be continued or reconvened,
21 public notice of such action including the date, time and place of
22 the continued meeting, shall be given by announcement at the
23 original meeting. Only matters appearing on the agenda of the
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1 meeting which is continued may be discussed at the continued or
2 reconvened meeting;

3 12. Special meetings of public bodies shall not be held without
4 public notice being given at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to
5 the meetings. Such public notice of date, time and place shall be
6 given in writing, in person or by telephonic means to the Secretary
7 of State or to the county clerk or to the municipal clerk by public
8 bodies in the manner set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of
9 this subsection. The public body also shall cause written notice of
10 the date, time and place of the meeting to be mailed or delivered to
11 each person, newspaper, wire service, radio station and television
12 station that has filed a written request for notice of meetings of
13 the public body with the clerk or secretary of the public body or
14 with some other person designated by the public body. Such written
15 notice shall be mailed or delivered at least forty-eight (48) hours
16 prior to the special meeting. The public body may charge a fee of
17 up to Eighteen Dollars (\$18.00) per year to persons or entities
18 filing a written request for notice of meetings, and may require
19 such persons or entities to renew the request for notice annually.
20 In addition, all public bodies shall, at least twenty-four (24)
21 hours prior to such special meetings, display public notice of the
22 meeting, setting forth thereon the date, time, place and agenda for
23 the meeting. Only matters appearing on the posted agenda may be
24 considered at the special meeting. Such public notice shall be

1 posted in prominent public view at the principal office of the
2 public body or at the location of the meeting if no office exists.
3 Twenty-four (24) hours prior public posting shall exclude Saturdays,
4 Sundays and holidays legally declared by the State of Oklahoma. In
5 lieu of the public posting requirements of this paragraph, a public
6 body may elect to follow the requirements found in division (2) of
7 subparagraph a of paragraph 9 of this subsection, provided that
8 forty-eight-hour notice is required for special meetings and that
9 the forty-eight-hour requirement shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays
10 and holidays legally declared by the State of Oklahoma;

11 13. In the event of an emergency, an emergency meeting of a
12 public body may be held without the public notice heretofore
13 required. Should an emergency meeting of a public body be
14 necessary, the person calling such a meeting shall give as much
15 advance public notice as is reasonable and possible under the
16 circumstances existing, in person or by telephonic or electronic
17 means; and

18 14. A public body that gives public notice of a meeting for
19 which there will be a videoconference option in accordance with
20 Section 307.1 of this title shall not modify the method of meeting
21 described in the notice prior to the meeting and shall conduct the
22 meeting according to the methods described in the notice. If a code
23 or password is required to access the videoconference meeting, the
24 code or password shall be included in the public notice.

1 B. 1. All agendas required pursuant to the provisions of this
2 section shall identify all items of business to be transacted by a
3 public body at a meeting including, but not limited to, any proposed
4 executive session for the purpose of engaging in deliberations or
5 rendering a final or intermediate decision in an individual
6 proceeding prescribed by the Administrative Procedures Act.

7 2. If a public body proposes to conduct an executive session,
8 the agenda shall:

- 9 a. contain sufficient information for the public to
10 ascertain that an executive session will be proposed,
- 11 b. identify the items of business and purposes of the
12 executive session, and
- 13 c. state specifically the provision of Section 307 of
14 this title authorizing the executive session.

15 C. A public body may provide a reasonable opportunity for
16 public comment on agenda items prior to any business being
17 transacted. A public body may adopt written rules governing the
18 time, manner, and order of public comment. Such rules, if adopted,
19 shall allow a person an opportunity to speak on an item appearing on
20 the agenda. A public body may limit the duration of individual
21 comments, limit total comment time for an agenda item, or require
22 commenters to register prior to the item being heard, provided that
23 such limits are applied uniformly and are reasonably related to the

1 efficient conduct of the meeting. Nothing in this section shall be
2 construed to require a public body to permit public comment.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.
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