

By Senator Soto

14-00368-16

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public meetings; amending s.
3 286.011, F.S.; requiring specified boards and
4 commissions to publish meeting agendas at least 48
5 hours before a public meeting; specifying permissible
6 means of publication; providing an exception for
7 emergency and special meetings; providing that a board
8 or commission has a continuing duty to update and
9 republish agendas; providing for construction;
10 providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 286.011, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (3) of that section is
16 republished, to read:

17 286.011 Public meetings and records; public inspection;
18 criminal and civil penalties.—

19 (1) All meetings of any board or commission of any state
20 agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county,
21 municipal corporation, or political subdivision, except as
22 otherwise provided in the State Constitution, including meetings
23 with or attended by any person elected to such board or
24 commission, but who has not yet taken office, at which official
25 acts are to be taken are declared to be public meetings open to
26 the public at all times, and no resolution, rule, or formal
27 action shall be considered binding except as taken or made at
28 such meeting. The board or commission must provide reasonable
29 notice of all such meetings. In addition, the board or
30 commission shall publish an agenda of all such meetings on its
31 website at least 48 hours, excluding weekends and legal
32 holidays, before the meetings begin. If the board or commission

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33 does not have a website, publication may be satisfied by posting
34 a copy of the meeting agenda in any office of the board or
35 commission which is accessible to the public or at the location
36 where the noticed meeting is to take place. An emergency or
37 special meeting is not subject to the 48-hour publication
38 requirement; however, the board or commission shall publish the
39 agenda for an emergency or special meeting as expeditiously as
40 possible after providing reasonable notice of the meeting. The
41 board or commission is not prohibited from adding agenda items
42 after the initial publication of an agenda; however, the board
43 or commission has a continuing duty to update and republish the
44 agenda to include any additional items before the meeting
45 begins. This section does not supersede additional restrictions
46 or requirements regarding agenda publication provided by any
47 other law.

48 (3) (a) Any public officer who violates any provision of
49 this section is guilty of a noncriminal infraction, punishable
50 by fine not exceeding \$500.

51 (b) Any person who is a member of a board or commission or
52 of any state agency or authority of any county, municipal
53 corporation, or political subdivision who knowingly violates the
54 provisions of this section by attending a meeting not held in
55 accordance with the provisions hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor
56 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
57 775.083.

58 (c) Conduct which occurs outside the state which would
59 constitute a knowing violation of this section is a misdemeanor
60 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
61 775.083.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.