

By Senator Gruters

23-00918-22

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to district school board meetings;  
3           amending s. 1001.372, F.S.; requiring all meetings of  
4           district school boards which are not exempt from  
5           certain public meeting requirements to be recorded by  
6           video and streamed live on a publicly accessible  
7           website; specifying requirements for district school  
8           board rules and policies governing the public's  
9           opportunity to be heard; providing applicability;  
10          providing construction; amending s. 1014.04, F.S.;  
11          providing that parents have the right to be heard at  
12          district school board meetings, including the right to  
13          criticize individual district school board members;  
14          providing an effective date.

15  
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18           Section 1. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section  
19           1001.372, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)  
20           and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) and subsection  
21           (6) are added to that section, to read:

22           1001.372 District school board meetings.—

23           (3) MEETING RECORDINGS; STREAMING.—All meetings of the  
24           district school board which are not exempt from s. 286.011 must  
25           be recorded by video and streamed live on a publicly accessible  
26           website.

27           (6) OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.—

28           (a) Rules or policies governing the public's opportunity to  
29           be heard which are adopted by a district school board pursuant

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30 to s. 286.0114 must:

31 1. Set aside at least 30 minutes of public comment at the  
32 beginning of each meeting. Individual members of the public or  
33 representatives of groups or factions may speak for at least 3  
34 minutes on any topic relating to the district school board  
35 during this time.

36 2. Give individual members of the public or representatives  
37 of groups or factions at least 3 minutes of speaking time on  
38 each agenda item considered by the district school board. This  
39 speaking time is in addition to the speaking time under  
40 subparagraph 1.

41 3. Allow speakers to criticize individual district school  
42 board members, provided that the speaker maintains orderly  
43 conduct and proper decorum.

44 (b) This subsection applies only when the public has an  
45 opportunity to be heard and is not precluded from speaking by  
46 operation of s. 286.0114(3).

47 (c) This subsection may not be construed to preclude a  
48 district school board from maintaining orderly conduct or proper  
49 decorum in a meeting.

50 Section 2. Paragraph (k) is added to subsection (1) of  
51 section 1014.04, Florida Statutes, to read:

52 1014.04 Parental rights.—

53 (1) All parental rights are reserved to the parent of a  
54 minor child in this state without obstruction or interference  
55 from the state, any of its political subdivisions, any other  
56 governmental entity, or any other institution, including, but  
57 not limited to, all of the following rights of a parent of a  
58 minor child in this state:

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59       (k) In accordance with s. 1001.372(6), the right to be  
60 heard at district school board meetings, including the right to  
61 criticize individual district school board members.

62       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.