

By the Committees on Rules; and Governmental Oversight and Accountability; and Senator Wright

595-02682-24

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to citizen volunteer advisory  
3       committees; amending s. 286.011, F.S.; authorizing  
4       specified regional citizen volunteer advisory  
5       committees to conduct public meetings and workshops by  
6       means of communications media technology; providing  
7       that the use of such technology by a member  
8       constitutes that member's presence at the meeting or  
9       workshop; requiring that such technology allow all  
10      persons to audibly communicate; providing notice  
11      requirements for public meetings or workshops  
12      conducted by means of communications media technology;  
13      providing an effective date.

14  
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17       Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 286.011,  
18 Florida Statutes, to read:

19       286.011 Public meetings and records; public inspection;  
20 criminal and civil penalties.—

21       (9) (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a regional  
22 citizen volunteer advisory committee, created to provide  
23 technical expertise and support to the National Estuary Program  
24 established by Congress under s. 320 of the Clean Water Act,  
25 whose membership is composed of representatives from four or  
26 more counties may conduct public meetings and workshops by means  
27 of communications media technology as defined in s.  
28 120.54(5)(b)2. An advisory committee member who participates in  
29 a public meeting or workshop by communications media technology

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30 is deemed to be present at the meeting or workshop. The use of  
31 communications media technology must allow for all persons  
32 attending the meeting or workshop to audibly communicate as if  
33 the person is physically present.

34 (b) The notice for a public meeting or workshop must state  
35 whether the meeting or workshop will be conducted using  
36 communications media technology, how an interested person may  
37 participate, and the location of facilities where communications  
38 media technology will be available during the meeting or  
39 workshop.

40 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.