

By: Goodman

H.B. No. 305

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the prohibition against members of a governmental body  
3 meeting in numbers less than a quorum.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 551.143, Government Code, is amended by  
6 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

7 (c) Subsection (a) does not prohibit a group of members of a  
8 governmental body from meeting in numbers less than a quorum to  
9 discuss public business or public policy over which the  
10 governmental body has supervision or control if:

11 (1) the discussion is limited only to:

12 (A) the exchanging of information about the  
13 public business or public policy among the members present;

14 (B) the receiving of information by the members  
15 present from an officer or employee of the governmental body about  
16 the public business or public policy; or

17 (C) the giving of information by the members  
18 present to an officer or employee of the governmental body about the  
19 public business or public policy;

20 (2) no action is taken by the members present on the  
21 public business or public policy that was the subject of the  
22 discussion; and

23 (3) the content of the discussion is not privately  
24 shared or discussed with any member of the governmental body not

1 present before the information is shared or discussed with a quorum  
2 of the governmental body in an open meeting.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.