

By: Wentworth
(Coleman)

S.B. No. 1906

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain notice requirements for municipalities and counties under the open meetings law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 551.0415, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 551.0415. GOVERNING BODY OF MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY: REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST REGARDING WHICH NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 551.041 and 551.042, a quorum of the governing body of a municipality or county may receive from [~~municipal~~] staff of the political subdivision and a member of the governing body may make a report about items of community interest during a meeting of the governing body without having given notice of the subject of the report as required by this subchapter if no action is taken and, except as provided by Section 551.042, possible action is not discussed regarding the information provided in the report.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a), "items of community interest" includes:

(1) expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence;

(2) information regarding holiday schedules;

(3) an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen, except that a

1 discussion regarding a change in the status of a person's public
2 office or public employment is not an honorary or salutary
3 recognition for purposes of this subdivision;

4 (4) a reminder about an upcoming event organized or
5 sponsored by the governing body;

6 (5) information regarding a social, ceremonial, or
7 community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the
8 governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a
9 member of the governing body or an official or employee of the
10 political subdivision [~~municipality~~]; and

11 (6) announcements involving an imminent threat to the
12 public health and safety of people in the political subdivision
13 [~~municipality~~] that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

14 SECTION 2. Section 551.050, Government Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 551.050. MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTAL BODY: PLACE OF
17 POSTING NOTICE. (a) In this section, "electronic bulletin board"
18 means an electronic communication system that includes a
19 perpetually illuminated screen on which the governmental body can
20 post messages or notices viewable without manipulation by the
21 public.

22 (b) A municipal governmental body shall post notice of each
23 meeting on a physical or electronic bulletin board at a place
24 convenient to the public in the city hall.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.