

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 121

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the Internet broadcast of open meetings of the Texas
3 Board of Nursing.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Occupations Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 301.0581 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 301.0581. INTERNET BROADCAST AND ARCHIVE OF OPEN
8 MEETINGS. (a) The board shall broadcast over the Internet live
9 video and audio of each open meeting of the board. The board shall
10 provide access to the broadcast on the board's Internet website.

11 (b) Not later than the seventh day after the date an open
12 meeting is broadcast under this section, the board shall make
13 available through the board's Internet website archived video and
14 audio of the open meeting. The board shall maintain the archived
15 video and audio of the open meeting on the board's Internet website
16 until the second anniversary of the date the archived video and
17 audio was first made available on the website.

18 (c) The board shall provide on the board's Internet website
19 the same notice of the open meeting that the board is required to
20 post under Subchapter C, Chapter 551, Government Code. The notice
21 must be posted on the board's Internet website within the time
22 required for posting notice under Subchapter C, Chapter 551,
23 Government Code.

24 (d) The board may use for an Internet broadcast of an open

1 meeting of the board a room made available to the board on request
2 in any state building, as that term is defined by Section 2165.301,
3 Government Code.

4 (e) The board is exempt from the requirements of this
5 section to the extent a catastrophe, as defined by Section
6 551.0411, Government Code, or a technical breakdown prevents the
7 board from complying with this section. Following the catastrophe
8 or technical breakdown, the board shall make all reasonable efforts
9 to make the required video and audio of the open meeting available
10 in a timely manner.

11 (f) The board shall consider contracting through
12 competitive bidding with a private individual or entity to
13 broadcast and archive an open meeting subject to this section to
14 minimize the cost of complying with this section.

15 SECTION 2. Section 301.0581, Occupations Code, as added by
16 this Act, applies only to an open meeting held on or after September
17 1, 2019.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.