

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 125

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Internet broadcast of open meetings of the Texas Funeral Service Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 651, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 651.0591 to read as follows:

Sec. 651.0591. INTERNET BROADCAST AND ARCHIVE OF OPEN MEETINGS. (a) The commission shall broadcast over the Internet live video and audio of each open meeting of the commission. The commission shall provide access to the broadcast on the commission's Internet website.

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

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

1 (d) The commission may use for an Internet broadcast of an
2 open meeting of the commission a room made available to the
3 commission on request in any state building, as that term is defined
4 by Section 2165.301, Government Code.

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

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

16 SECTION 2. Section 651.0591, Occupations Code, as added by
17 this Act, applies only to an open meeting held on or after September
18 1, 2019.

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