



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1069

PRINTERS NO. 2529

PRIME SPONSOR: Bernstine

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
Commonwealth Funds	\$0	\$0
Political Subdivision Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Sunshine Act to require a public agency to post public meeting agendas at the meeting location, at the agency's office location, and on the agency's website, if they have one, no later than 24 hours prior to a meeting, and to prohibit an agency from taking official action on items not in the meeting agenda. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Sunshine Act provisions of Title 65 to establish requirements for the distribution and posting of information relating to the agenda of a public meeting.

Notification of Agency Business: Under the legislation, any agency subject to the Sunshine Act will be required to:

- Post the agenda on its internet website (if the agency has a website) no later than 24 hours in advance of the time of the meeting;
- Post the agenda at the location of the meeting;
- Post the agenda at the principal office location of the agency.
- Make copies of the agenda available to those in attendance.

The agenda must include a listing of each matter of agency business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action.

The legislation also prohibits an agency from taking official action on a matter of agency business at a public meeting, if the matter is not included in the meeting agenda that was posted and distributed for the meeting in question.

Exceptions: An agency may take official action on agency business that is not on the agenda if:

- It relates to an emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property;
- The matter is de minimis in nature and does not involve an expenditure of funds or entering into a contract;
- It is to refer a matter of agency business to staff for further research, if the matter is brought to the attention of the agency at the meeting; or
- Upon majority vote of individuals present and voting at a meeting, vote to add an item to the agenda;
 - The reason for the added agenda item must be announced at the meeting before the vote.

Notification of Amended Agency Agenda: Any amended agenda must be posted at the principal office location and on the agency's website, if it has one, no later than the first business day following the meeting in which the agenda was amended.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or political subdivision funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: January 13, 2020

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.