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## DIGEST

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HB 299 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Amedee

**Abstract:** Exempts receipt of information by members of a public body regarding natural disasters and declared emergencies from requirements of the Open Meetings Law under certain circumstances.

Present law requires that all meetings of public bodies to be open to the public except in cases provided by law. Provides relative to public notice of open meetings, public comment and voting during meetings, and publication of minutes of open meetings.

Present law defines "meeting" as the convening of a quorum of a public body to receive information, deliberate, or act on a matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

Present law excepts certain meetings from the requirements of present law.

Proposed law adds an exception for the receipt of information regarding preparations for and response and recovery efforts directly relating to a natural disaster or declared emergency by members of a public body if no vote or other action, including formal or informal polling of members or discussion of future action by the public body, occurs.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 42:17(E))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Remove specific references to "meeting at which a quorum is present" and remove references to conversations via telecommunications media and to presentations that include security sensitive information.
2. Change the exception to allow members of a public body to receive information regarding preparations for and response and recovery efforts directly relating to a natural disaster or declared emergency if no vote or other action, including formal or informal polling of members or discussion of future action by the public body, occurs.