

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 682

BY REPRESENTATIVES HILFERTY, FREEMAN, AND MANDIE LANDRY

LEGISLATORS: Provides relative to the authority of legislators to attend all meetings of public bodies

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 24:8, relative to the legislature; to provide for the authority of  
3 members of the legislature to attend meetings of public bodies; to provide for an  
4 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 24:8 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §8. Authority to attend meetings of ~~state boards, commissions, agencies and~~  
8 committees public bodies

9 A. The members of the legislature shall be eligible and are hereby authorized  
10 to attend any meeting of any ~~state board, commission, agency or committee~~ public  
11 body and such attendance shall be permitted at both public meetings and those held  
12 in private or executive session.

13 B. For purposes of this Section, the phrase "public body" has the same  
14 meaning as provided in R.S. 44:1.

15 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
16 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
17 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
18 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
19 effective on the day following such approval.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 682 Original

2024 Regular Session

Hilferty

**Abstract:** Authorizes legislators to attend any meeting of any public body, including those held in private or executive session.

Present law authorizes legislators to attend any meeting of any state board, commission, agency, or committee and specifies that such attendance shall be permitted at both public meetings and those held in private or executive session.

Proposed law provides instead that legislators may attend any meeting of a public body and specifies that such attendance shall be permitted at both public meetings and those held in private or executive session. Defines "public body" in the same manner as present law (R.S. 44:1, relative to public records) which provides that the phrase "public body" means any branch, department, office, agency, board, commission, district, governing authority, political subdivision, or any committee, subcommittee, advisory board, or task force thereof, any other instrumentality of state, parish, or municipal government, including a public or quasi-public nonprofit corporation designated as an entity to perform a governmental or proprietary function, or an affiliate of a housing authority.

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

(Amends R.S. 24:8)