
DIGEST

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Abramson

HB No. 614

Abstract: Clarifies that several minimum time periods contained in the Open Meetings Law are exclusive of legal holidays.

Present law, the Open Meetings Law, contains several 24-hour minimum time periods, including: the minimum amount of time before the start of the meeting that notice must be given to a person whose character, professional competence, or physical or mental health will be discussed in executive session (R.S. 42:17(A)); the minimum amount of time before which written public notice must be given for any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting (R.S. 42:19(A)(1)(b)(i)); the minimum amount of time to change the agenda before the start of the meeting (R.S. 42:19(A)(1)(b)(ii)); and, the minimum amount of time that the meeting's notice must be posted, physically and electronically.

Present law excludes legal holidays for purposes of calculating any time period under seven days (C.C.P. Art. 5059). "Legal holidays" is defined in present law to include Saturdays, Sundays, all major holidays observed by the state, additional days depending on event or locale, and days of declared emergencies (R.S. 1:55). Proposed law retains present law but specifies that Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are not part of the 24-hour minimum time periods in the Open Meetings Law.

(Amends R.S. 42:17(A)(1) and 19(A)(1)(b)(i) and (ii)(aa) and (2)(a))