

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: H3/24/03

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2617

5 By: Representative Lendall
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS
10 CONDUCTED VIA TELEPHONE OR VIDEO CONFERENCING
11 TECHNOLOGY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC
15 MEETINGS CONDUCTED VIA TELEPHONE OR
16 VIDEO CONFERENCING TECHNOLOGY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 25-19-106, concerning public meetings under
22 the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, is amended to add a new subdivision
23 to read as follows:

24 (d)(1)(A) A public meeting under this subchapter may be conducted
25 using any telecommunication or electronic device that enables all members of
26 a governing body participating in the meeting to communicate with each other
27 and to the public attending the meeting in person.

28 (B) A telecommunication or electronic device under this
29 subdivision (d) may include telephone or video conferencing devices or any
30 similar communication equipment.

31 (C) If a telecommunication or electronic device is used
32 during a public meeting under this subchapter, the communications shall be
33 audible to the members of the governing body and to the public attending the
34 meeting in person.

35 (2)(A) Participation in a public meeting under this subchapter by
36 a member of the governing body through a telecommunication or electronic



1 device shall constitute presence in person by that member at the meeting.

2 (B) However, at least one (1) member of the governing body
3 shall be physically present at the location designated in the meeting notice
4 to ensure that the public may attend the meeting in person.

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6 (3) A person who attends a public meeting by using a
7 telecommunication or electronic device under this section and who is
8 otherwise eligible to receive mileage, per diem, or expense reimbursement
9 under Arkansas law may not receive mileage, per diem, or expense
10 reimbursement if he or she travels fifty (50) miles or fewer to the
11 transmission site.

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13 /s/ Lendall
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