State of Arkansas

As Engrossed:  H4/2/19

A Bill

Regular Session, 2019

HOUSE BILL 1928

By: Senators Elliott, Bond, Hickey

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF 1967; TO REQUIRE ALL OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE RECORDED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF 1967; AND TO REQUIRE ALL OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE RECORDED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 25-19-106, concerning open public meetings under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(d)(1) All officially scheduled, special, and called open public meetings shall be recorded in a manner that allows for the capture of sound including without limitation:

(A) A sound-only recording;
(B) A video recording with sound and picture; or
(C) A digital or analog broadcast capable of being recorded.

(2) A recording of an open public meeting shall be maintained by the public entity for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of the open public meeting.

(3) The recording shall be maintained in a format that may be
reproduced upon a request under this chapter.

(4) Subdivisions (d)(1) and (2) of this section do not apply to:

(A) Executive sessions; or

(B) Volunteer fire departments.

(5) Cities of the second class and incorporated towns are exempt from subdivisions (d)(1) and (2) of this section until July 1, 2020.

/s/V. Flowers