**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**A70, R99, S11**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators L. Martin, Malloy, Peeler, Courson, Campsen, Johnson, Hembree, Setzler, Coleman, Alexander, Scott and Sheheen

Document Path: l:\s-jud\bills\l. martin\jud0003.rem.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 3192

Introduced in the Senate on January 13, 2015

Introduced in the House on February 4, 2015

Last Amended on June 3, 2015

Passed by the General Assembly on June 3, 2015

Governor's Action: June 8, 2015, Signed

Summary: Notice of meetings for public bodies

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/3/2014 Senate Prefiled

12/3/2014 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/13/2015 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 37](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/13/2015 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 37](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/20/2015 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: L.Martin (ch), Rankin, Hutto, Malloy, Campsen, Massey, Gregory

1/28/2015 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 26](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-28-15.docx))

1/29/2015 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-29-15.docx))

1/29/2015 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-29-15.docx))

1/29/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑32 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\01-29-15.docx))

2/3/2015 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 18](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\02-03-15.docx))

2/4/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 14](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-04-15.docx))

2/4/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 14](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\02-04-15.docx))

4/22/2015 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\04-22-15.docx))

4/28/2015 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\04-28-15.docx))

4/28/2015 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\04-28-15.docx))

4/28/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑100 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\04-28-15.docx))

4/29/2015 House Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments ([House Journal‑page 31](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\04-29-15.docx))

4/30/2015 Senate House amendment amended ([Senate Journal‑page 38](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\04-30-15.docx))

4/30/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑42 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 38](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\04-30-15.docx))

4/30/2015 Senate Returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 38](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\04-30-15.docx))

5/1/2015 Scrivener's error corrected

5/6/2015 House Non‑concurrence in Senate amendment ([House Journal‑page 18](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\05-06-15.docx))

5/6/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑0 Nays‑113 ([House Journal‑page 19](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\05-06-15.docx))

5/12/2015 Senate Senate insists upon amendment and conference committee appointed Campsen, Gregory, Johnson

5/12/2015 House Conference committee appointed Newton, Taylor, Norrell ([House Journal‑page 38](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\05-12-15.docx))

6/2/2015 Senate Free conference powers granted ([Senate Journal‑page 47](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\06-02-15.docx))

6/2/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 47](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\06-02-15.docx))

6/2/2015 Senate Free conference committee appointed Campsen, Gregory, Johnson ([Senate Journal‑page 47](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\06-02-15.docx))

6/2/2015 Senate Free conference report adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 49](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\06-02-15.docx))

6/2/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 49](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\06-02-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Free conference powers granted ([House Journal‑page 144](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑100 Nays‑1 ([House Journal‑page 144](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Free conference committee appointed Newton, Taylor, and Norrell ([House Journal‑page 145](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Free conference report received and adopted ([House Journal‑page 145](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑103 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 147](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/3/2015 House Ordered enrolled for ratification ([House Journal‑page 148](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\06-03-15.docx))

6/4/2015 Ratified R 99

6/8/2015 Signed By Governor

6/17/2015 Effective date 06/08/15

6/18/2015 Act No. 70

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/3/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20141203.docx)

[1/28/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150128.docx)

[1/29/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150129.docx)

[4/22/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150422.docx)

[4/28/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150428.docx)

[4/30/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150430.docx)

[5/1/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150501.docx)

[6/3/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\11_20150603.docx)

(A70, R99, S11)

**AN ACT** **TO AMEND SECTION 30‑4‑80, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PROVISIONS IN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CONCERNING REQUIRED NOTICE FOR MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC BODIES SHALL POST AGENDAS FOR ALL REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS, TO PROVIDE THE TIME AND MANNER FOR POSTING THESE AGENDAS AND NOTICES OF MEETINGS, TO SPECIFY CONTENTS REQUIRED FOR THESE MEETING NOTICES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THESE AGENDAS SUBSEQUENTLY MAY BE AMENDED.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Meeting notice and agenda requirements**

SECTION 1. Section 30‑4‑80 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 30‑4‑80. (A) All public bodies, except as provided in subsections (B) and (C) of this section, must give written public notice of their regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar year. The notice must include the dates, times, and places of such meetings. An agenda for regularly scheduled or special meetings must be posted on a bulletin board in a publicly accessible place at the office or meeting place of the public body and on a public website maintained by the body, if any, at least twenty‑four hours prior to such meetings. All public bodies must post on such bulletin board or website, if any, public notice for any called, special, or rescheduled meetings. Such notice must include the agenda, date, time, and place of the meeting, and must be posted as early as is practicable but not later than twenty‑four hours before the meeting. This requirement does not apply to emergency meetings of public bodies. Once an agenda for a regular, called, special, or rescheduled meeting is posted pursuant to this subsection, no items may be added to the agenda without an additional twenty‑four hours notice to the public, which must be made in the same manner as the original posting. After the meeting begins, an item upon which action can be taken only may be added to the agenda by a two‑thirds vote of the members present and voting; however, if the item is one upon which final action can be taken at the meeting or if the item is one in which there has not been and will not be an opportunity for public comment with prior public notice given in accordance with this section, it only may be added to the agenda by a two‑thirds vote of the members present and voting and upon a finding by the body that an emergency or an exigent circumstance exists if the item is not added to the agenda. Nothing herein relieves a public body of any notice requirement with regard to any statutorily required public hearing.

(B) Legislative committees must post their meeting times during weeks of the regular session of the General Assembly and must comply with the provisions for notice of special meetings during those weeks when the General Assembly is not in session. Subcommittees of standing legislative committees must give notice during weeks of the legislative session only if it is practicable to do so.

(C) Subcommittees, other than legislative subcommittees, of committees required to give notice under subsection (A), must make reasonable and timely efforts to give notice of their meetings.

(D) Written public notice must include but need not be limited to posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the public body holding the meeting or, if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held.

(E) All public bodies shall notify persons or organizations, local news media, or such other news media as may request notification of the times, dates, places, and agenda of all public meetings, whether scheduled, rescheduled, or called, and the efforts made to comply with this requirement must be noted in the minutes of the meetings.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 4th day of June, 2015.

Approved the 8th day of June, 2015.

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