

House Bill 2560

Sponsored by Representative MEEK, Senator STEINER HAYWARD; Representatives REARDON, SALINAS (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires governing body of public body, to extent reasonably possible, to make all meetings accessible remotely through technological means and provide opportunity for members of general public to remotely submit oral and written testimony during meetings to extent in-person oral and written testimony is allowed. Imposes same requirements on hearings under ORS chapters 197 and 215.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to expanding remote participation of public in self-government through use of technology;
3 amending ORS 192.670.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 192.670 is amended to read:

6 192.670. (1) Any meeting, including an executive session, of a governing body of a public body
7 which is held through the use of telephone or other electronic communication shall be conducted in
8 accordance with ORS 192.610 to 192.690.

9 (2) When telephone or other electronic means of communication is used and the meeting is not
10 an executive session, the governing body of the public body shall make available to the public at
11 least one place where, or at least one electronic means by which, the public can listen to the com-
12 munication at the time it occurs. A place provided may be a place where no member of the gov-
13 erning body of the public body is present.

14 (3) **All meetings held by a governing body of a public body, excluding executive sessions,**
15 **must provide to members of the general public, to the extent reasonably possible, an oppor-**
16 **tunity to:**

17 (a) **Access and attend the meeting by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual**
18 **means;**

19 (b) **If in-person oral testimony is allowed, submit during the meeting oral testimony by**
20 **telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means; and**

21 (c) **If in-person written testimony is allowed, submit during the meeting written testi-**
22 **mony by electronic mail or other electronic means.**

23 (4) **The provisions of subsection (3) of this section:**

24 (a) **Apply to hearings under ORS 197.763, 215.402 to 215.438 and 215.700 to 215.780 regard-**
25 **less of whether a governing body or governing body's designee, including a hearings officer,**
26 **conducts the hearing; and**

27 (b) **Do not apply to contested case hearings under ORS chapter 183.**
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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.