

HCS HB 27 -- OPEN RECORDS LAW

SPONSOR: Walsh (50)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Government Accountability by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 27.

This bill requires posting notice, required under Section 610.020, RSMo, of the Open Records Law commonly known as the Sunshine Law, of meeting times, dates, places, and agendas as well as minutes of open meetings on a public governmental body's website and social media pages if the governmental body manages a website and/or social media page. The social media notice requirement can be satisfied by posting a link to the webpage containing the notice.

In addition, public governmental bodies must post proposed and adopted rules, ordinances, laws, or regulations on their website and social media pages within 3 business days after the meeting at which they are proposed or adopted exclusive of weekends and holidays. The social media notice requirement can be satisfied by posting a link to the webpage containing the notice.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROponents: Supporters say that this bill pushes current procedures into the digital age and allows for more convenient notice to the public.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walsh and Arnie Dienoff.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.