

By: Senator(s) Wiggins

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2081
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO CLARIFY THE MEANING ASCRIBED TO
3 PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR PURPOSES OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-41-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 25-41-3. For purposes of this chapter, the following words
9 shall have the meaning ascribed herein, to wit:

10 (a) "Public body" means any executive or administrative
11 board, commission, authority, council, department, agency, bureau
12 or any other policymaking entity, or committee thereof, of the
13 State of Mississippi, or any political subdivision or municipal
14 corporation of the state, whether the entity be created by statute
15 or executive order, which is supported wholly or in part by public
16 funds or expends public funds, and any standing, interim or
17 special committee of the Mississippi Legislature. The term
18 "public body" includes the governing board of a charter school
19 authorized by the Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board and



20 the board of trustees of a community hospital as defined in
21 Section 41-13-10. There shall be exempted from the provisions of
22 this chapter:

23 (i) The judiciary, including all jury
24 deliberations;

25 (ii) Law enforcement officials;

26 (iii) The military;

27 (iv) The State Probation and Parole Board;

28 (v) The Workers' Compensation Commission;

29 (vi) Legislative subcommittees and legislative
30 conference committees;

31 (vii) The arbitration council established in
32 Section 69-3-19;

33 (viii) License revocation, suspension and
34 disciplinary proceedings held by the Mississippi State Board of
35 Dental Examiners; and

36 (ix) Hearings and meetings of the Board of Tax
37 Appeals and of the hearing officers and the board of review of the
38 Department of Revenue as provided in Section 27-77-15.

39 (b) "Meeting" means an assemblage of members of a
40 public body at which official acts may be taken upon a matter over
41 which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction or
42 advisory power * * *, including an assemblage through the use of
43 video or teleconference devices that conforms to Section 25-41-5.



44 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after January 1, 2016. It is the intent of the Legislature
46 that this act apply retroactively.

