

By: Representative Shanks

To: Constitution

HOUSE BILL NO. 1118

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE DEFINITION OF "PUBLIC BODY" IN THE PROVISIONS OF LAW
3 REGULATING OPEN MEETINGS BY ADDING "SUBCOMMITTEE" TO THE
4 DEFINITION; AND FOR 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, * * * committee or subcommittee
13 thereof, of the State of Mississippi, or any political subdivision
14 or municipal corporation of the state, whether the entity be
15 created by statute or executive order, which is supported wholly
16 or in part by public funds or expends public funds, and any
17 standing, interim or special committee of the Mississippi
18 Legislature. The term "public body" includes the governing board
19 of a charter school authorized by the Mississippi Charter School



20 Authorizer Board and the board of trustees of a community hospital
21 as defined in Section 41-13-10. The term "public body" includes
22 the Mississippi Lottery Corporation. There shall be exempted from
23 the provisions of this chapter:

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

26 (ii) Law enforcement officials;

27 (iii) The military;

28 (iv) The State Probation and Parole Board;

29 (v) The Workers' Compensation Commission;

30 (vi) Legislative * * * 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 video
43 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 July 1, 2022.

