

By: Representatives Rotenberry, Eakes

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 575

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW SHALL APPLY TO TELECONFERENCE  
3 AND VIDEO MEETINGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 25-41-3. For purposes of this chapter, the following words  
8 shall have the meaning ascribed herein, to wit:

9 (a) "Public body" means: (i) any executive or  
10 administrative board, commission, authority, council, department,  
11 agency, bureau or any other policymaking entity, or committee  
12 thereof, of the State of Mississippi, or any political subdivision  
13 or municipal corporation of the state, whether such entity be  
14 created by statute or executive order, which is supported wholly  
15 or in part by public funds or expends public funds, and (ii) any  
16 standing, interim or special committee of the Mississippi  
17 Legislature. There shall be exempted from the provisions of this  
18 chapter the judiciary, including all jury deliberations, public  
19 and private hospital staffs, public and private hospital boards  
20 and committees thereof, law enforcement officials, the military,  
21 the State Probation and Parole Board, the Workers' Compensation  
22 Commission, legislative subcommittees and legislative conference  
23 committees, the arbitration council established in Section 69-3-19  
24 and license revocation, suspension and disciplinary proceedings  
25 held by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners.

26 (b) "Meeting" means an assemblage of members of a  
27 public body at which official acts may be taken upon a matter over



28 which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction or  
29 advisory power and "meeting" also means any such assemblage  
30 through the use of video or teleconference devices.

31         **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
32 and after July 1, 2002.

