

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.

