

By Senator Wright

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to citizen volunteer advisory
3 committees; amending s. 286.011, F.S.; authorizing
4 specified regional citizen volunteer advisory
5 committees to conduct public meetings and workshops by
6 means of communications media technology; providing
7 that the use of such technology by a member
8 constitutes that member's presence at the meeting or
9 workshop; requiring that such technology allow all
10 persons to audibly communicate; providing notice
11 requirements for public meetings or workshops
12 conducted by means of communications media technology;
13 providing construction; providing an effective date.

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 286.011,
18 Florida Statutes, to read:

19 286.011 Public meetings and records; public inspection;
20 criminal and civil penalties.—

21 (9) (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, regional
22 citizen volunteer advisory committees whose membership is
23 composed solely of representatives from four or more counties
24 may conduct public meetings and workshops by means of
25 communications media technology as defined in s. 120.54(5)(b)2.
26 An advisory committee member who participates in a public
27 meeting or workshop by communications media technology is deemed
28 to be present at the meeting or workshop. The use of
29 communications media technology must allow for all persons

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30 attending the meeting or workshop to audibly communicate as if
31 the person is physically present.

32 (b) The notice for a public meeting or workshop must state
33 whether the meeting or workshop will be conducted using
34 communications media technology, how an interested person may
35 participate, and the location of facilities where communications
36 media technology will be available during the meeting or
37 workshop.

38 (c) Any other laws applicable to public meetings or
39 workshops conducted by means of communications media technology
40 must be liberally construed in their application to meetings and
41 workshops conducted as provided in this subsection.

42 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.