

# Senate Study Bill 1186

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL  
BY CHAIRPERSON QUIRMBACH)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public notice requirements for meetings of  
2 boards of township trustees.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
4 TLSB 1851SC 83  
5 md/sc/8

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. Section 21.4, subsection 1, Code 2009, is  
2 amended to read as follows:  
1 3 1. A governmental body, ~~except township trustees,~~ shall  
1 4 give notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting, and  
1 5 its tentative agenda, in a manner reasonably calculated to  
1 6 apprise the public of that information. Reasonable notice  
1 7 shall include advising the news media who have filed a request  
1 8 for notice with the governmental body and posting the notice  
1 9 on a bulletin board or other prominent place which is easily  
1 10 accessible to the public and clearly designated for that  
1 11 purpose at the principal office of the body holding the  
1 12 meeting, or if no such office exists, at the building in which  
1 13 the meeting is to be held.  
1 14 Sec. 2. Section 359.17, subsection 2, Code 2009, is  
1 15 amended to read as follows:  
1 16 2. A board of township trustees shall give prior notice of  
1 17 a meeting to discuss, deliberate, or act upon a matter  
1 18 relating to the budget or a tax levy of the township or  
1 19 relating to the trustees' duty to provide fire protection  
1 20 service and, if provided, emergency medical service, pursuant  
1 21 to section 359.42. The trustees shall give notice of such  
1 22 meeting at least ~~forty-eight~~ twenty-four hours preceding the  
1 23 commencement of the meeting. However, a notice is not  
1 24 required pursuant to this subsection when the trustees gather  
1 25 for ~~minor or purely~~ ministerial matters relating to the  
1 26 trustees' duty for providing such fire protection service or  
1 27 emergency medical service. The notice shall state the time,  
1 28 date, and place of the meeting and the proposed agenda. The  
1 29 notice shall be provided to the county auditor who shall post  
1 30 the notice in an area of the courthouse where notices to the  
1 31 public are commonly posted.

### EXPLANATION

1 33 Current law requires that notice of a board of township  
1 34 trustees meeting relating to the budget, a tax levy of the  
1 35 township, or the trustees' duty or authority to provide fire  
2 1 protection service or emergency medical service shall be given  
2 2 at least 48 hours before the meeting. This bill requires such  
2 3 notice to be given at least 24 hours before the meeting.  
2 4 The bill removes the exemption for township trustees in  
2 5 Code section 21.4 relating to notices required for meetings of  
2 6 governmental bodies. The bill amends the exemption from the  
2 7 board of township trustees meeting notice requirements for  
2 8 minor or ministerial matters to conform with the provisions of  
2 9 Code section 21.2.  
2 10 LSB 1851SC 83  
2 11 md/sc/8