

House Study Bill 578 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED IOWA PUBLIC
INFORMATION BOARD BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public notice requirements for meetings of a
2 governmental body.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 21.4, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
2 2026, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Except as provided in subsection 3, a governmental body
4 shall give notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting,
5 including a reconvened meeting of the governmental body, and
6 the tentative agenda of the meeting, in a manner reasonably
7 calculated to apprise the public of that information. Reasonable

8 (1) Giving notice under this paragraph shall include advising
9 all of the following:

10 (a) Advising the news media who have filed a request for
11 notice with the governmental body and posting.

12 (b) Posting the notice on a bulletin board or other in a
13 prominent and conspicuous place which is easily accessible to the
14 public and clearly designated for that purpose at the principal
15 office of the body holding the meeting, or if no such office
16 exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held
17 annually designated for such purposes by the governmental body,
18 in a manner such that the notice is visible at all times.

19 (c) Posting the notice on any internet site owned or
20 maintained and regularly updated by the governmental body or
21 other internet presence moderated by the governmental body, if
22 applicable.

23 (2) If a tentative agenda has been posted and is amended
24 within the time frame established in subsection 2, paragraph
25 "a", the governmental body shall mark the agenda "AMENDED"
26 and identify the amended provisions. Upon amendment, the
27 governmental body shall give notice in accordance with
28 subparagraph (1).

29 EXPLANATION

30 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
31 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

32 This bill relates to public notice requirements for meetings
33 of a governmental body. The bill requires the act of giving
34 notice of a meeting of a governmental body to include (1)
35 advising the news media who have filed a request for notice

1 with the governmental body as provided under current law, (2)
2 posting the notice in a prominent and conspicuous place that
3 is designated annually by the governmental body, in a manner
4 such that the notice is visible at all times, and (3) posting
5 the notice on any associated internet site as specified in the
6 bill. If a tentative agenda has been posted and is amended, the
7 amended agenda shall be marked "AMENDED", the amended provisions
8 identified, and a new notice provided.

9 By operation of law, notice for electronic meetings of
10 governmental bodies as provided in Code section 21.8 (electronic
11 meetings) shall comply with the notice requirements in Code
12 section 21.4 (public notice). In addition, the bill applies
13 to notices for public appointment and employment under Code
14 section 35C.1 (veterans preference — appointments and employment
15 — applications) and notices for whole grade sharing agreements
16 under Code section 282.11 (procedure for whole grade sharing
17 agreements).