

Senate Bill 1502

Sponsored by Senator WAGNER, Representatives RUIZ, MCINTIRE; Senators SOLLMAN, THATCHER, WEBER
(Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Requires public schools and college boards to live stream their meetings and post the meeting recordings on their websites and social media sites. This does not apply if a meeting is private. Allows remote testimony for most school and college board meetings. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.7).

Requires the governing bodies of school districts, education service districts, community college districts and public universities to live stream governing body meetings if technically practicable, and to post the recordings of the meetings on their official public body websites or social media sites. Excludes executive sessions. Requires educational institution governing bodies to also permit witnesses to testify via telephonic, electronic or virtual means if meetings also permit in-person oral testimony.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to public meetings of educational institution boards; creating new provisions; and amending
3 ORS 192.670.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2024 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 192.610 to**
6 **192.705.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) This section applies to any meeting of the governing body of the following**
8 **public bodies:**

9 (a) **A common or union high school district;**

10 (b) **An education service district;**

11 (c) **A community college district; or**

12 (d) **A public university described in ORS 352.002.**

13 (2) **A public body subject to this section must:**

14 (a) **If technically practicable, contemporaneously live stream every meeting of the gov-**
15 **erning body of the public body; and**

16 (b) **Within seven days following the meeting, post a video or audio recording of the**
17 **meeting on the public body's website or social media site.**

18 (3) **Subsection (2) of this section does not apply to any meeting or portion of a meeting**
19 **that is conducted in executive session.**

20 **SECTION 3. ORS 192.670 is amended to read:**

21 192.670. (1) Any meeting, including an executive session, of a governing body of a public body
22 which is held through the use of telephone or other electronic communication shall be conducted in
23 accordance with ORS 192.610 to 192.705.

24 (2) When telephone or other electronic means of communication is used and the meeting is not
25 an executive session, the governing body of the public body shall make available to the public at

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 least one place where, or at least one electronic means by which, the public can listen to the com-
2 munication at the time it occurs. A place provided may be a place where no member of the gov-
3 erning body of the public body is present.

4 (3) All meetings held by a governing body of a public body, excluding executive sessions, must
5 provide to members of the general public, to the extent reasonably possible, an opportunity to:

6 (a) Access and attend the meeting by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means;

7 (b) If in-person oral testimony is allowed, submit during the meeting oral testimony by telephone,
8 video or other electronic or virtual means; and

9 (c) If in-person written testimony is allowed, submit written testimony, including by electronic
10 mail or other electronic means, so that the governing body is able to consider the submitted testi-
11 mony in a timely manner.

12 (4) The provisions of subsection (3) of this section:

13 (a) Apply to hearings under ORS 197.797, 215.402 to 215.438 and 215.700 to 215.780 regardless
14 of whether a governing body or governing body's designee, including a hearings officer, conducts the
15 hearing; and

16 (b) Do not apply to contested case hearings under ORS chapter 183.

17 **(5) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, a governing body of a public body de-**
18 **scribed in section 2 of this 2024 Act must permit oral testimony to be submitted by tele-**
19 **phone, video or other electronic or virtual means if in-person oral testimony is allowed at**
20 **the meeting.**

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