



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 286

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Sears and Letson, Grossman, Curtin, Brenner, Smith, Becker, Hackett, Gonzales, Driehaus, Blair, Reece, Barborak, Slesnick, Ruhl, Phillips, Sheehy

BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to meet by interactive video conference or teleconference under certain conditions.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Meetings of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council

The bill authorizes the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to meet by interactive video conference or teleconference if certain conditions are satisfied. Current law generally requires that a public body open its meetings to the public and conduct official business and deliberations at open meetings. Current law also requires that a member of a public body be present in person at such meetings to be counted towards a quorum or to vote.¹

Interactive video conference or teleconference

The bill specifies that the requirement that a member be present in person at a meeting to be part of a quorum or to vote does not apply if the Council holds a meeting by interactive video conference or teleconference and the following conditions are met:

(1) A primary meeting location, open and accessible to the public, is established for the Council's meeting;

¹ R.C. 121.22, not in the bill.

(2) In the case of an interactive video conference, a clear video and audio connection is established, enabling all participants at the primary meeting location to witness the participation of each member;

(3) In the case of a teleconference, the Council has determined its membership does not have access to and the Council cannot provide access to the equipment needed to conduct interactive video conferencing;

(4) In the case of a teleconference, a clear audio connection is established, enabling all participants at the primary meeting location to hear the participation of each member;

(5) A roll call vote is recorded for each vote taken;

(6) The Council minutes identify which members participated by interactive video conference or teleconference.²

The bill does not define interactive video conference or teleconference.

Rulemaking authority

The bill authorizes the Council to adopt rules it considers necessary to implement the bill's provisions. At a minimum, the Council must adopt rules to do all of the following:

(1) Authorize Council members to remotely attend a Council meeting by interactive video conference or teleconference in lieu of attending the meeting in person;

(2) Establish a minimum number of members required to be physically present in person at the primary meeting location if the Council conducts a meeting by interactive video conference or teleconference;

(3) Establish geographic restrictions for participation in meetings by interactive video conference or teleconference;

(4) Establish a policy for distributing and circulating necessary documents to Council members, the public, and the media in advance of a meeting at which members are permitted to attend by interactive video conference or teleconference;

² R.C. 5123.35(F)(1) and (F)(2).

(5) Establish a method for verifying the identity of a member who remotely attends a meeting by teleconference.³

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	10-02-13

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³ R.C. 5123.35(F)(3).

