

5993

Sponsor(s): Senators Benton, Rossi, Zarelli, Stevens, Johnson and Finkbeiner

Brief Description: Changing provisions relating to open public meetings.

SB 5993 - DIGEST

Provides that an agenda shall be posted at least seventy-two hours before each regular meeting and twenty-four hours before each special meeting. Each agenda item must be described with enough specificity to indicate the subject matter or action to be considered, but need not exceed twenty words per agenda item.

Requires at least fifteen minutes to be allotted for public comment for each agenda item. Each person desiring to speak shall be allotted at least three minutes, except that the time allotted may be reduced proportionately if more than five people desire to speak on the agenda item. The governing body shall accept written comments in addition to spoken comments.

Provides that the governing body may require persons desiring to speak or present written comments to identify himself or herself.

Declares that meetings of a governing body of a public agency defined under RCW 42.30.020(1)(a) shall be held within the state. Meetings of a governing body of a public agency defined under RCW 42.30.020(1)(b) shall be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the public agency exercises jurisdiction. Meetings of a governing body of a public agency defined under RCW 42.30.020(1)(c) or (d) shall be held within the boundaries of the territory of a public agency served by the subagency or policy group.