
HOUSE BILL 2285

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Sullivan, Chase and Haler

Read first time 03/09/2005. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to citizen participation at city council meetings;
2 and amending RCW 35A.12.110.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35A.12.110 and 1993 c 199 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The city council and mayor shall meet regularly, at least once a
7 month, at a place and at such times as may be designated by the city
8 council. All final actions on resolutions and ordinances must take
9 place within the corporate limits of the city. Special meetings may be
10 called by the mayor or any three members of the council by written
11 notice delivered to each member of the council at least twenty-four
12 hours before the time specified for the proposed meeting. All actions
13 that have heretofore been taken at special council meetings held
14 pursuant to this section, but for which the number of hours of notice
15 given has been at variance with requirements of RCW 42.30.080, are
16 hereby validated. All council meetings shall be open to the public
17 except as permitted by chapter 42.30 RCW and the rules of the council
18 shall provide that citizens of the city shall have a reasonable
19 opportunity to be heard at any meetings in regard to any matter being

1 considered thereat. No ordinance or resolution shall be passed, or
2 contract let or entered into, or bill for the payment of money allowed
3 at any meeting not open to the public, nor at any public meeting the
4 date of which is not fixed by ordinance, resolution, or rule, unless
5 public notice of such meeting has been given by such notice to each
6 local newspaper of general circulation and to each local radio or
7 television station, as provided in RCW 42.30.080 as now or hereafter
8 amended. Meetings of the council shall be presided over by the mayor,
9 if present, or otherwise by the mayor pro tempore, or deputy mayor if
10 one has been appointed, or by a member of the council selected by a
11 majority of the council members at such meeting. Appointment of a
12 council member to preside over the meeting shall not in any way abridge
13 his or her right to vote on matters coming before the council at such
14 meeting. In the absence of the clerk, a deputy clerk or other
15 qualified person appointed by the clerk, the mayor, or the council, may
16 perform the duties of clerk at such meeting. A journal of all
17 proceedings shall be kept, which shall be a public record.

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