

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public meetings and workshops for
3 regional advisory committees; amending s. 286.011,
4 F.S.; authorizing certain regional advisory committees
5 to conduct public meetings and workshops by means of
6 communications media technology; providing that an
7 advisory committee member who participates in a public
8 meeting or workshop using such technology is deemed
9 present; providing requirements for the use of
10 communications media technology; providing notice
11 requirements for such meetings and workshops;
12 providing an effective date.

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14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 286.011,
17 Florida Statutes, to read:

18 286.011 Public meetings and records; public inspection;
19 criminal and civil penalties.—

20 (9)(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a regional
21 advisory committee that is created to provide technical
22 expertise and support to the National Estuary Program
23 established by Congress under s. 320 of the Clean Water Act and
24 whose membership is composed of representatives from four or
25 more counties may conduct public meetings and workshops by means

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26 | of communications media technology as defined in s.
27 | 120.54(5) (b) 2. An advisory committee member who participates in
28 | a public meeting or workshop by communications media technology
29 | is deemed to be present at the meeting or workshop. The use of
30 | communications media technology must allow for all persons
31 | attending the meeting or workshop to audibly communicate as if
32 | they are physically present.

33 | (b) The notice for a public meeting or workshop must state
34 | whether the meeting or workshop will be conducted using
35 | communications media technology, how an interested person may
36 | participate, and the location of facilities where communications
37 | media technology will be available during the meeting or
38 | workshop.

39 | Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.