

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 792

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUNTER

PUBLIC MEETINGS: Requires public meetings of local governing authorities and school boards to be broadcast live on public access channels

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 42:23, relative to television broadcasts of public meetings of
3 certain public bodies; to provide requirements; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 42:23 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §23. Sonic and video recordings; live broadcast

7 A.(1) All public meetings of the governing authority of a municipality or
8 parish and or other local public school board shall be broadcast live on a local public
9 access channel.

10 (2) The provisions of this Subsection apply to all committees and
11 subcommittees of such a governing authority.

12 (B) All or any part of the proceedings in a public meeting that is not covered
13 by Subsection A of this Section may be video or tape recorded, filmed, or broadcast
14 live.

15 ~~B:~~ (C) A public body shall establish standards for the use of lighting,
16 recording or broadcasting equipment to insure proper decorum in a public meeting.

17 Section 2. By January 1, 2013, all governing authorities subject to the provisions of
18 this Act shall have entered into all contracts or cooperative endeavor agreements reasonably
19 necessary to effect the provisions of this Act.

1 Section 3.(A) The provisions of this Section and Section 2 of this Act shall become
2 effective upon signature of the Act by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon
3 expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided
4 by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If Act is vetoed by the governor
5 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this section and Section 2 of this Act shall
6 become effective on the day following such approval.

7 (B) The provisions of Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on January 1,
8 2013.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Hunter

HB No. 792

Abstract: Requires meetings of the governing authorities of municipalities, parishes, and local school boards to be broadcast live on a public access channel.

Present law authorizes all or any portion of a public meeting to be video or tape recorded, filmed, or broadcast live.

Proposed law requires public meetings of the governing authority of a municipality, parish, or local public school board to be broadcast live on a public access channel.

Proposed law further applies to all committees and subcommittees of such governing authorities.

Proposed law requires such broadcasts starting Jan. 1, 2013.

Proposed law gives the governing authorities affected by proposed law until Jan. 1, 2013, to sign all contracts and agreements reasonably necessary to effectuate the provisions of proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 42:23)