

1 **OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS - POLITICAL CAUCUSES**

2 2012 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Ross I. Romero**

5 House Sponsor: _____

6

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill enacts provisions governing legislative political caucuses in Title 52, Chapter
10 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12 This bill:

- 13 ▶ defines terms;
- 14 ▶ requires legislative political party caucuses to be open in certain circumstances; and
- 15 ▶ permits legislative political party caucuses to be closed in certain circumstances.

16 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17 None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19 None

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 ENACTS:

22 **52-4-211**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

23

24 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

25 Section 1. Section **52-4-211** is enacted to read:

26 **52-4-211. Meetings of legislative political caucuses.**

27 (1) As used in this section:



- 28 (a) "Legislative party leadership" means:
- 29 (i) the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 30 (ii) the president of the Senate;
- 31 (iii) the leader, whip, assistant whip, or manager of a legislative political caucus; or
- 32 (iv) the chair or vice chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee, the Senate
- 33 Rules Committee, or the House Rules Committee.
- 34 (b) (i) "Legislative political caucus" means an assembly of legislators:
- 35 (A) to which belong a majority of legislators from the same registered political party in
- 36 a chamber of the Legislature;
- 37 (B) called to assemble by a person authorized by the caucus to do so for the purpose of
- 38 discussing policy, legislation, strategy, plans, or registered political party business; and
- 39 (C) on a day that the Legislature is conducting the annual general session, a
- 40 veto-override session, or a special session.
- 41 (ii) "Legislative political caucus" does not mean:
- 42 (A) an assembly of legislators who are an informal or unofficial subgroup of a
- 43 registered political party;
- 44 (B) an assembly of legislators who meet because the legislators share a particular
- 45 political philosophy distinguishable from the legislative political caucus; or
- 46 (C) a meeting only attended by two or more legislative party leadership.
- 47 (c) "Registered political party" is as defined in Section 20A-8-101.
- 48 (2) (a) A legislative political caucus is not required to comply with the provisions of
- 49 this chapter except as provided in this section.
- 50 (b) A legislative political caucus shall be open to the public except in the
- 51 circumstances described in Subsection (3).
- 52 (3) A legislative political caucus is not required to be open to the public during the
- 53 portion of the caucus during which business is conducted relating to:
- 54 (a) a purpose described in Subsection 52-4-205(1); or
- 55 (b) caucus or legislative party leadership elections.

Legislative Review Note
as of 1-24-12 4:32 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel