

Open Meetings Act Amendment – Access to Verbatim Recordings and Minutes of Closed Meetings

Effective June 30, 2016, Public Act 99-0515 (HB 4630) amended the Open Meetings Act relative to access to verbatim recordings of closed meetings and to closed meeting minutes. The amendments made by the Public Act allow access to the verbatim recordings and minutes of closed meetings to “duly elected officials or appointed officials filling a vacancy of an elected office in a public body.”

The access to the recordings or minutes of the closed meeting is to be provided in the public body’s main office or official storage location, and is to be in the presence of a records secretary, an administrative official of the public body, or any elected official of the public body.

Finally, the Public Act provides that no verbatim recordings or minutes of closed meetings shall be recorded or removed from the public body’s main office or official storage location, except by vote of the public body or by court order. This last change is not intended to limit the Public Access Counselor’s access to records necessary to address a request for administrative review.

To see the text of the Public Act, click [here](#).

For more information about matters discussed in this issue, please feel free to contact Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins Ltd.



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