

1 AN ACT relating to open meetings.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 61.810 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) All meetings of a quorum of the members of any public agency at which any public  
5 business is discussed or at which any action is taken by the agency, shall be public  
6 meetings, open to the public at all times, except for the following:
- 7 (a) Deliberations for decisions of the Kentucky Parole Board;
  - 8 (b) Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public  
9 agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a  
10 specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public  
11 agency;
  - 12 (c) Discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the  
13 public agency;
  - 14 (d) Grand and petit jury sessions;
  - 15 (e) Collective bargaining negotiations between public employers and their  
16 employees or their representatives;
  - 17 (f) Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or  
18 dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting  
19 that employee's, member's, or student's right to a public hearing if requested.  
20 This exception shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general  
21 personnel matters in secret;
  - 22 (g) Discussions between a public agency and a representative of a business entity  
23 and discussions concerning a specific proposal, if open discussions would  
24 jeopardize the siting, retention, expansion, or upgrading of the business;
  - 25 (h) State and local cabinet meetings and executive cabinet meetings;
  - 26 (i) Committees of the General Assembly other than standing committees;
  - 27 (j) Deliberations of judicial or quasi-judicial bodies regarding individual

- 1 adjudications or appointments, at which neither the person involved, his  
 2 representatives, nor any other individual not a member of the agency's  
 3 governing body or staff is present, but not including any meetings of planning  
 4 commissions, zoning commissions, or boards of adjustment;
- 5 (k) Meetings which federal or state law specifically require to be conducted in  
 6 privacy;
- 7 (l) Meetings which the Constitution provides shall be held in secret;
- 8 (m) That portion of a meeting devoted to a discussion of a specific public record  
 9 exempted from disclosure under KRS 61.878(1)(m). However, that portion of  
 10 any public agency meeting shall not be closed to a member of the Kentucky  
 11 General Assembly; and
- 12 (n) Meetings of any selection committee, evaluation committee, or other similar  
 13 group established under KRS Chapter 45A or 56 or other state or local law,  
 14 to select a successful bidder for award of a state or local contract.
- 15 (2) Any series of less than quorum meetings, where the members attending one (1) or  
 16 more of the meetings collectively constitute at least a quorum of the members of the  
 17 public agency and where the meetings are held for the purpose of avoiding the  
 18 requirements of subsection (1) of this section, shall be subject to the requirements  
 19 of subsection (1) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
 20 prohibit discussions between individual members where the purpose of the  
 21 discussions is to educate the members on specific issues.
- 22 ➔Section 2. KRS 61.826 is amended to read as follows:
- 23 (1) A public agency may conduct any meeting through video teleconference.
- 24 (2) Notice of a video teleconference meeting shall:
- 25 (a) Comply with the requirements of KRS 61.820 or 61.823 as appropriate; ~~In~~  
 26 ~~addition, the notice of a video teleconference shall:~~
- 27 (b)~~(a)~~ Clearly state that the meeting will be a video teleconference;

1 (c) Provide specific information on how any member of the public or media  
 2 organization may view the meeting electronically; and

3 (d)[(b)] In any case where the public agency has elected to provide a physical  
 4 location, or in any circumstance where two (2) or more members of the  
 5 public agency are attending a video teleconference meeting from the same  
 6 physical location, precisely identify a primary physical location of the video  
 7 teleconference where all members can be seen and heard and the public may  
 8 attend in accordance with KRS 61.840.

9 (3) The same procedures with regard to participation, distribution of materials, and  
 10 other matters shall apply in all video teleconference locations. Members of the  
 11 public agency who participate in a video teleconference shall remain visible on  
 12 camera at all times that business is being discussed.

13 (4) Any interruption in the video or audio broadcast of a video teleconference at any  
 14 location shall result in the suspension of the video teleconference until the broadcast  
 15 is restored.

16 ➔Section 3. KRS 83A.150 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The form of government provided in this section shall be known as the city manager  
 18 plan and this section shall together with KRS 83A.010 to 83A.120 govern any city  
 19 declared to be under the city manager plan by KRS 83A.020 or which has adopted  
 20 the city manager plan pursuant to KRS 83A.160.

21 (2) Each city under this section shall be governed by an elected officer who shall be  
 22 called mayor and by elected legislative body members who shall be called city  
 23 commissioners and which together shall be known as the board of commissioners  
 24 and by such other officers and employees as may be provided for by statute or city  
 25 ordinance.

26 (3) All legislative and executive authority of the city shall be vested in and exercised by  
 27 the board. The mayor shall preside at all meetings of the board and may vote in all

1 proceedings. The mayor shall be recognized as the head of the city government by  
2 the Governor for purposes of military law, but shall have no regular administrative  
3 duties. The board shall designate one (1) city commissioner to serve as mayor pro  
4 tem. The mayor pro tem shall act for the mayor whenever the mayor is unable to  
5 attend to the duties of his office and he shall then possess all rights, powers and  
6 duties of mayor. If the disability of the mayor to attend his duties continues for sixty  
7 (60) consecutive days, the office of mayor may be declared vacant by a majority  
8 vote of the board membership and the provisions of KRS 83A.040 shall apply.

9 (4) **In addition to the requirements of KRS 61.805 to 61.850, the board shall conduct**  
10 **meetings as follows:**

11 **(a)** Regular meetings of the board shall be held at least once each month at such  
12 times and places as are fixed by ordinance;~~[-]~~

13 **(b)** Special meetings of the board may be called by the mayor or upon written  
14 request of a majority of the city commissioners. In the call, the mayor or  
15 commissioners shall designate the purpose, time and place of the special  
16 meeting with sufficient notice for the attendance of board members and for  
17 compliance with KRS Chapter 61. At a special meeting no business shall be  
18 considered other than that set forth in the designation of purpose;~~[-]~~

19 **(c)** The minutes of every meeting shall be signed by the person responsible for  
20 maintaining city records provided under KRS 83A.060 and the officer  
21 presiding at the meeting; **and**

22 **(d) Notwithstanding Section 1 of this Act, the board may meet in a closed**  
23 **session no more than two (2) times per calendar year for the purposes of**  
24 **conducting a performance evaluation of the city manager. The board shall**  
25 **follow KRS 61.815 in conducting the closed session. Any public records**  
26 **related to that performance evaluation shall be subject to the provisions of**  
27 **KRS 61.870 to 61.884.**

- 1 (5) The board shall by ordinance establish all appointive offices and the duties and  
2 responsibilities of those offices and codes, rules, and regulations for the public  
3 health, safety, and welfare. The board shall by ordinance provide for sufficient  
4 revenue to operate city government and shall appropriate the funds of a city budget  
5 which shall provide for the orderly management of city resources.
- 6 (6) The board may require any city officer or employee to prepare and submit to it  
7 sworn statements regarding his performance of his official duties and may otherwise  
8 inquire into the conduct of duties of any department, office, or agency of the city.
- 9 (7) The board shall in accordance with KRS 83A.080 create the office of city manager  
10 and set qualifications for the office, which shall include, but not be limited to  
11 professional training or administrative qualifications with special reference to actual  
12 experience in or knowledge of accepted practice regarding duties of the office and  
13 list duties and responsibilities of the office which shall include, but not be limited  
14 to:
- 15 (a) Being responsible to the board for the proper administration of all duties  
16 imposed upon him by ordinance;
- 17 (b) Recommending to the board, subject to any statute, ordinance, or contract  
18 which relates to the appointment, tenure, or removal of any employee, the  
19 appointment, and when necessary for the good of the service, the removal of  
20 subordinate employees and officers of the city. No officer or employee of the  
21 city shall be appointed or removed except through action by the board, except  
22 that the city manager may fill vacancies in the classified service pending the  
23 appointment by the board and may employ personnel for temporary positions  
24 subject to such conditions as may be imposed by the board;
- 25 (c) Preparing the budget and submitting it to the board and being responsible for  
26 its administration after adoption;
- 27 (d) Preparing and submitting to the board as of the end of each fiscal year a

- 1 complete report on the finances and administrative activities of the city for the  
2 preceding year;
- 3 (e) Keeping the board advised of the financial condition and future needs of the  
4 city and making recommendations as he deems desirable;
- 5 (f) Maintaining liaison with related units of local government respecting  
6 interlocal contracting and joint activities;
- 7 (g) Supervising all departments of city government and the conduct of all city  
8 officers and employees under his jurisdiction and requiring each department to  
9 make reports to him required by ordinance or as he deems desirable; and
- 10 (h) Performing other duties required of city executive authorities by statute or  
11 required of him by the board not inconsistent with this section.
- 12 (8) The board shall appoint a city manager by a majority vote of all its members. The  
13 city manager shall be appointed for an indefinite term and may be removed only by  
14 a majority vote of all board members. At least thirty (30) days before such removal  
15 shall become effective, the board shall by a majority vote of all its members adopt a  
16 preliminary resolution stating the reasons for his removal. The city manager may  
17 reply in writing and may request a public hearing which shall be held not earlier  
18 than twenty (20) days nor later than thirty (30) days after the filing of the request.  
19 After the public hearing, if requested, and after full consideration, the board by  
20 majority vote of all its members may adopt a final resolution of removal. By the  
21 preliminary resolution, the board may suspend the city manager from duty, but shall  
22 in any event cause to be paid to him any unpaid balance of his compensation and  
23 compensation for the next calendar month following adoption of the preliminary  
24 resolution.
- 25 (9) The city manager shall be the chief administrative officer and exercise those  
26 executive powers and duties delegated to him by ordinance and statute. He shall  
27 enforce the city manager plan, city ordinances and all applicable statutes. Subject to

1 approval of the board, the city manager shall promulgate procedures to insure  
2 orderly administration of the functions of city government and compliance with  
3 statute or ordinance. Any delegation of the city manager's duties or responsibilities  
4 to subordinate officers and employees shall be made by municipal order except that  
5 all bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the city according to ordinance  
6 or resolution shall be made and executed by the mayor on behalf of the city.