

State of Misconsin 2009 - 2010 LEGISLATURE

## **2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 546**

November 3, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives Roys, PASCH, BERCEAU, BIES and GRIGSBY, cosponsored by Senators KREITLOW and PLALE. Referred to Committee on Urban and Local Affairs.

1 AN ACT *to create* 66.0145 of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring governmental 2 bodies of certain political subdivisions to post meeting notices and minutes on 3 their Web sites.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, under the open meetings law, with certain exceptions, meetings of state and local governmental bodies must be preceded by public notice, must be held in places that are reasonably accessible to the public, and must be open to the public at all times, although such meetings may convene in closed session for the purpose of considering certain matters specified by law.

A public notice of a meeting of a governmental body must contain the time, date, place, and subject matter of the meeting and must be given at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting, although shorter notice, but never less than two hours, may be given under limited circumstances. The notice must be given to news media that have filed a request to receive such a notice and the notice must appear in the governmental body's official newspaper or, if none exists, in a news medium likely to give notice in the area.

Under this bill, a governmental body of a city, village, town, or county (political subdivision) that has a Web site is required to post a public notice of a meeting that is subject to the open meetings law on that political subdivision's Web site and also must post any minutes of the meeting that relate to business conducted during an open session of the meeting. Current law defines "governmental body" to include any

## **ASSEMBLY BILL 546**

agency, board, commission, committee, council, or department of a political subdivision.

## The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 66.0145 of the statutes is created to read:  $\mathbf{2}$ 66.0145 Posting of public meeting notice, minutes. (1) In this section: (a) "Political subdivision" means a city, village, town, or county. 3 (b) "Public notice" means a public notice, as that term is used in s. 19.84, that 4 sets forth the time, date, place, and subject matter of a meeting of a governmental  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 body of the political subdivision. 7 (2) If a political subdivision has a Web site, it shall post on its Web site all of 8 the following: 9 (a) The public notice for every meeting of a governmental body of the political 10 subdivision, consistent with the notice requirements in s. 19.84 (3). 11 (b) As soon as possible after the conclusion of the meeting for which the public 12notice was posted, the minutes that relate to that meeting, but only to the extent that 13the minutes reflect any business conducted during the open session of the meeting. **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.** 1415(1) This act first applies to a meeting that is held on the day after the date on 16 which this subsection takes effect. 17(END)