

HOUSE BILL 139

P1
HB 47/11 – HGO

3lr1072

By: **Delegate O'Donnell**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2013

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Training for Public Open Meetings Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Open Meetings Law Compliance Board to
4 develop and offer an online training program on the requirements of the open
5 meetings law to employees, officers, or members of a public body; requiring a
6 public body to designate certain individuals to receive certain online training;
7 requiring the public body to submit a list of the individuals designated to
8 receive certain online training to the Board; requiring certain individuals
9 designated to receive certain online training to complete the training within a
10 certain time period; requiring certain individuals to complete certain annual
11 online training; and generally relating to online training on the requirements of
12 the Open Meetings Act.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – State Government
15 Section 10–502.4(d)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

18 BY adding to
19 Article – State Government
20 Section 10–502.7
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
24 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – State Government**

26 10–502.4.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (d) The Board, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General and
2 other interested organizations or persons, shall:

3 (1) develop and conduct educational programs on the requirements of
4 the open meetings law for the staffs and attorneys of:

5 [(1)] (I) public bodies;

6 [(2)] (II) the Maryland Municipal League; and

7 [(3)] (III) the Maryland Association of Counties; AND

8 (2) DEVELOP AND OFFER AN ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM ON THE
9 REQUIREMENTS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW TO EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, OR
10 MEMBERS OF A PUBLIC BODY.

11 **10-502.7.**

12 (A) EACH PUBLIC BODY SHALL:

13 (1) DESIGNATE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS,
14 OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY TO RECEIVE ONLINE TRAINING ON THE
15 REQUIREMENTS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW; AND

16 (2) FORWARD A LIST OF THE INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED UNDER
17 ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE BOARD.

18 (B) (1) EACH INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF
19 THIS SECTION SHALL COMPLETE THE ONLINE TRAINING ON THE
20 REQUIREMENTS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER BEING
21 DESIGNATED.

22 (2) AFTER THE INITIAL TRAINING COMPLETED UNDER
23 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE INDIVIDUAL SHALL COMPLETE
24 ANNUAL ONLINE TRAINING THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION REGARDING:

25 (I) AMENDMENTS TO THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW;

26 (II) WRITTEN OPINIONS OF THE BOARD; AND

27 (III) HOW THE PUBLIC BODY CAN COMPLY WITH THE OPEN
28 MEETINGS LAW WITH REGARD TO CHANGING TECHNOLOGY.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial individuals
2 designated under § 10-502.7(a)(1) of the State Government Article, as enacted by
3 Section 1 of this Act, shall complete the online training on the requirements of the
4 open meetings law within 6 months after the effective date of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2013.