

---

SENATE BILL 5927

---

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senator Morton

Read first time 02/09/09. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to notice of special meetings; and amending RCW  
2 42.30.080.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.30.080 and 2005 c 273 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding  
7 officer of the governing body of a public agency or by a majority of  
8 the members of the governing body by delivering written notice  
9 personally, by mail, by fax, or by electronic mail to each member of  
10 the governing body(~~+~~and)). Written notice shall be deemed waived if:

11 (a) A member submits a written waiver of notice with the clerk or  
12 secretary of the governing body at or before the time the meeting  
13 convenes. A written waiver may be given by telegram, fax, or  
14 electronic mail; or

15 (b) A member is actually present at the time the meeting convenes.

16 (2) Notice of a special meeting called under subsection (1) of this  
17 section shall be:

18 (a) Delivered to each local newspaper of general circulation and

1 ((to each)) local radio or television station which has on file with  
2 the governing body a written request to be notified of such special  
3 meeting or of all special meetings;

4 (b) Prominently displayed at the main entrance of the agency's  
5 principal location and the meeting site if it is not held at the  
6 agency's principal location;

7 (c) Posted on the agency's web site, if any, and maintained more  
8 often than weekly by agency staff. An agency shall be considered to  
9 have complied with the requirement for posting a notice on its web site  
10 if the agency made every possible effort to post the notice at least  
11 twenty-four hours before the meeting and was unable to do so because of  
12 circumstances beyond its control, and complied with all the remaining  
13 requirements in this section. In an effort to show good faith, the  
14 agency shall document its efforts to post the notice on its web site  
15 and must document the reason for the failure to do so; and

16 (d) Sent to individuals who reside in a voting district for which  
17 the governing body has fewer than one thousand registered voters and  
18 who have a written request to be notified of special meetings on file  
19 with the governing body. Individuals requesting to be notified of  
20 special meetings may receive the notice by fax, electronic mail, or  
21 telephonic message.

22 ((Such)) (3) Notice under subsection (2) of this section must be  
23 delivered ~~((personally, by mail, by fax, or by electronic mail))~~ or  
24 posted, as applicable, at least twenty-four hours before the time of  
25 such meeting as specified in the notice.

26 (4) The call and notice required under subsections (1) and (2) of  
27 this section shall specify the time and place of the special meeting  
28 and the business to be transacted. Final disposition shall not be  
29 taken on any other matter at such meetings by the governing body.  
30 ~~((Such written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or~~  
31 ~~prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or~~  
32 ~~secretary of the governing body a written waiver of notice. Such~~  
33 ~~waiver may be given by telegram, by fax, or electronic mail. Such~~  
34 ~~written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is~~  
35 ~~actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.))~~

36 (5) The notices provided in this section may be dispensed with in  
37 the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency  
38 involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of

1 such injury or damage, when time requirements of such notice would make  
2 notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury or  
3 damage.

--- END ---