

HOUSE BILL 1251

P3

5lr3040

By: **Delegate W. Miller**

Introduced and read first time: March 5, 2015

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Open Meetings Act – Required Training**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the scope of the training requirements under the Open
4 Meetings Act to include all employees, officials, and members of a public body;
5 requiring that certain individuals complete certain training within a certain time
6 period; requiring each new and returning member of the General Assembly to take
7 certain training; requiring the Office of the Attorney General to provide certain
8 training on or before a certain day of a certain session; and generally relating to
9 required training under the Open Meetings Act.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – General Provisions
12 Section 3–213
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2014 Volume)

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

17 **Article – General Provisions**

18 3–213.

19 (a) **(1)** [Each public body shall:

20 (1) designate at least one] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF**
21 **THIS SECTION, EACH** individual who is an employee, an [officer] **OFFICIAL**, or a member
22 of [the] A public body [to receive training on the requirements of the open meetings law;
23 and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) forward a list of the individuals designated under item (1) of this
2 subsection to the Board.

3 (b) Within 90 days after being designated under subsection (a)(1) of this section,
4 an individual] shall complete:

5 [(1)] (I) an online class on the requirements of the open meetings law
6 offered by the Office of the Attorney General and the University of Maryland's Institute for
7 Governmental Service and Research; or

8 [(2)] (II) a class on the requirements of the open meetings law offered by
9 the Maryland Association of Counties or the Maryland Municipal League through the
10 Academy for Excellence in Local Governance.

11 (2) UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL COMPLETED THE TRAINING REQUIRED
12 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION WITHIN THE PRECEDING 4 YEARS, THE
13 INDIVIDUAL SHALL COMPLETE THE REQUIRED TRAINING WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER
14 THE INDIVIDUAL BECOMES AN EMPLOYEE, AN OFFICIAL, OR A MEMBER OF A PUBLIC
15 BODY.

16 (B) (1) EACH NEW AND RETURNING MEMBER OF THE GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY SHALL TAKE IN-PERSON TRAINING ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
18 OPEN MEETINGS LAW.

19 (2) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL PROVIDE
20 THE IN-PERSON TRAINING TO THE NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS OF THE
21 GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH DAY OF THE FIRST REGULAR
22 SESSION OF EACH LEGISLATIVE TERM.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2015.