96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB5503

Introduced 2/5/2010, by Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 120/2

from Ch. 102, par. 42

Amends the Open Meetings Act. Permits a closed meeting for an elder abuse fatality review team's review of a death in which abuse or neglect is alleged, suspected, or substantiated.

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AN ACT concerning government.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Open Meetings Act is amended by changing
Section 2 as follows:

6 (5 ILCS 120/2) (from Ch. 102, par. 42)

7 Sec. 2. Open meetings.

8 (a) Openness required. All meetings of public bodies shall 9 be open to the public unless excepted in subsection (c) and 10 closed in accordance with Section 2a.

(b) Construction of exceptions. The exceptions contained in subsection (c) are in derogation of the requirement that public bodies meet in the open, and therefore, the exceptions are to be strictly construed, extending only to subjects clearly within their scope. The exceptions authorize but do not require the holding of a closed meeting to discuss a subject included within an enumerated exception.

18 (c) Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to 19 consider the following subjects:

(1) The appointment, employment, compensation,
 discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific
 employees of the public body or legal counsel for the
 public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint

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lodged against an employee of the public body or against
 legal counsel for the public body to determine its
 validity.

4 (2) Collective negotiating matters between the public 5 body and its employees or their representatives, or 6 deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more 7 classes of employees.

8 (3) The selection of a person to fill a public office, 9 as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public 10 office, when the public body is given power to appoint 11 under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or 12 removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public 13 body is given power to remove the occupant under law or 14 ordinance.

15 (4) Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or 16 in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to 17 a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in this Act, provided 18 that the body prepares and makes available for public 19 inspection a written decision setting forth its 20 determinative reasoning.

(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease ofproperty owned by the public body.

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(7) The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or
 investment contracts.

3 (8) Security procedures and the use of personnel and
4 equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a
5 reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees,
6 students, staff, the public, or public property.

(9) Student disciplinary cases.

8 (10) The placement of individual students in special 9 education programs and other matters relating to 10 individual students.

(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

(12) The establishment of reserves or settlement of 18 19 claims as provided in the Local Governmental and 20 Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be 21 22 prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or 23 risk management information, records, data, advice or 24 communications from or with respect to any insurer of the 25 public body or any intergovernmental risk management 26 association or self insurance pool of which the public body - 4 - LRB096 19219 JAM 34610 b

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1 is a member.

2 (13) Conciliation of complaints of discrimination in 3 the sale or rental of housing, when closed meetings are 4 authorized by the law or ordinance prescribing fair housing 5 practices and creating a commission or administrative 6 agency for their enforcement.

7 (14) Informant sources, the hiring or assignment of
8 undercover personnel or equipment, or ongoing, prior or
9 future criminal investigations, when discussed by a public
10 body with criminal investigatory responsibilities.

11 (15) Professional ethics or performance when 12 considered by an advisory body appointed to advise a 13 licensing or regulatory agency on matters germane to the 14 advisory body's field of competence.

15 (16) Self evaluation, practices and procedures or 16 professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of 17 a statewide association of which the public body is a 18 member.

19 (17) The recruitment, credentialing, discipline or 20 formal peer review of physicians or other health care 21 professionals for a hospital, or other institution 22 providing medical care, that is operated by the public 23 body.

24 (18) Deliberations for decisions of the Prisoner25 Review Board.

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(19) Review or discussion of applications received

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under the Experimental Organ Transplantation Procedures
 Act.

3 (20) The classification and discussion of matters
 4 classified as confidential or continued confidential by
 5 the State Government Suggestion Award Board.

6 (21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed 7 under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the 8 body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as 9 mandated by Section 2.06.

10 (22) Deliberations for decisions of the State
 11 Emergency Medical Services Disciplinary Review Board.

12 (23) The operation by a municipality of a municipal 13 utility or the operation of a municipal power agency or 14 municipal natural gas agency when the discussion involves 15 (i) contracts relating to the purchase, sale, or delivery 16 of electricity or natural gas or (ii) the results or 17 conclusions of load forecast studies.

18 (24) Meetings of a residential health care facility 19 resident sexual assault and death review team or the 20 Executive Council under the Abuse Prevention Review Team 21 Act.

22 (25) A review conducted by an elder abuse fatality 23 review team, pursuant to Section 15 of the Elder Abuse and 24 Neglect Act, of the death of an elderly person in which the 25 abuse or neglect of the elderly person is alleged or 26 suspected or has been substantiated. - 6 - LRB096 19219 JAM 34610 b

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(d) Definitions. For purposes of this Section:

2 "Employee" means a person employed by a public body whose 3 relationship with the public body constitutes an 4 employer-employee relationship under the usual common law 5 rules, and who is not an independent contractor.

6 "Public office" means a position created by or under the 7 Constitution or laws of this State, the occupant of which is 8 charged with the exercise of some portion of the sovereign power of this State. The term "public office" shall include 9 10 members of the public body, but it shall not include 11 organizational positions filled by members thereof, whether 12 established by law or by a public body itself, that exist to 13 assist the body in the conduct of its business.

"Quasi-adjudicative body" means an administrative body 14 15 charged by law or ordinance with the responsibility to conduct 16 hearings, receive evidence or testimony and make 17 determinations based thereon, but does not include local electoral boards when such bodies are considering petition 18 19 challenges.

(e) Final action. No final action may be taken at a closed
meeting. Final action shall be preceded by a public recital of
the nature of the matter being considered and other information
that will inform the public of the business being conducted.
(Source: P.A. 94-931, eff. 6-26-06; 95-185, eff. 1-1-08.)