

Short Form Analysis

Author: Laird Sponsor: Bill Number: SB 544

Amended: April 27, 2023

SUBJECT

Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act-Teleconferencing

Technical Amendment

SUMMARY

This bill would, under the Government Code, modify provisions of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Bagley-Keene Act) to update the means by which the public may remotely participate or observe meetings by teleconference, an online platform, or a physical address; to update the notice requirement to include specific information on how the public may access the meeting; to require a state body holding a meeting through teleconferencing to implement a procedure to accommodate accessibility requests consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act; and to make other nonsubstantive changes.

ANALYSIS

The April 27, 2023, amendments clarified that certain existing notice requirements under the Bagley-Keene Act are not affected by the bill; added that the agenda must also be posted on the day of the meeting at any physical location; clarified that the public can address the state body without having to submit comments before the meeting or in writing; added specific actions to be taken by the state body should the remote participation fail during the public meeting; added the definition of "remote location" and added that any state body member teleconferencing from a remote location must disclose the presence of any individual over the age of 18 years.

The Franchise Tax Board's analysis of this bill as amended March 20, 2023, still applies, including one technical consideration relating to Section 11123(b)(1)(C) of the bill.

LEGISLATIVE CONTACT

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