

Open Meetings and Notice Requirements

It is a commonly held view that “the legislature’s business is the people’s business.” According to the 1985 Florida Select Subcommittee on Open Government Laws, “Open government is inherent in the very concept of political democracy and representative government.” In a 1993 *State Issue Brief* on open meeting laws, Common Cause stated “Public bodies that make decisions behind closed doors and by secret votes breed the suspicion that private interests are being served, not the public interest.”

Open meetings and public notice requirements are essential if citizens and interest group representatives are to participate in legislative deliberations. At the same time, however, governments have occasional need for confidentiality—for example, when discussing matters that deal with personnel issues or affect the security of the state.

The Alabama Legislature enacted the first open meetings law in 1915. Although all 50 states have open meetings laws today, their applicability to the legislature and its committees varies.

Floor sessions. The floor sessions of most legislatures must be open. Only four chambers—the Delaware House, Hawaii Senate, Kentucky House and New Jersey Senate—reported that this was not true (see table 02-6.23). The requirement for open floor sessions usually is set by state constitution. Open floor session provisions also may be found in statutes and chamber rules (see table 02-6.24). It is the traditional practice of the Maine and Oklahoma Houses to hold open floor sessions.

There are occasions when a floor session may be closed by a vote of the body. Fifty-two legislative chambers reported that they have this ability (see table 02-6.25), and table 02-6.26 provides information on the vote required to do so.

Committees. The applicability of open meeting laws or rules to committees may vary by type of committee. The requirements for three major types of legislative committees—standing, conference and interim—are discussed below.

Standing committees. Standing committee meetings in almost all legislatures are open to the public. In fact, only one chamber—the New Jersey Senate—reported that it does not require open meetings of its standing committees (see table 02-6.27).

Open meeting laws or rules may allow standing committees to close meetings upon a certain vote (see tables 02-6.29 and 02-6.30). The 46 chambers in which this practice is permitted are listed in table 02-6.29. In the Iowa House, only one standing committee has the ability to limit access to its meetings; the Administration and Rules Committee may close a meeting to discuss certain personnel matters.

Conference committees. Table 02-6.31 lists the 67 chambers that require conference committees to be open. In the Illinois Senate, only conference committees that deal with appropriation matters are required to be open. The Delaware House, Nebraska Legislature and New Jersey Senate do not use conference committees. Thirteen legislative bodies do not require conference committees to hold open meetings.

In 45 legislative chambers, conference committees do not have the ability to close their meetings (see table 02-6.33). Eighteen chambers allow conference committee meetings to be closed by a majority vote. In seven chambers, it takes a supermajority vote.

Interim committees. The vast majority of legislatures require interim committee meetings to be open. In fact, only three chambers—the Iowa Senate and House and Washington House—indicated that they do not have such requirements (see table 02-6.35). Interim committees are not used by the Illinois House, Massachusetts Senate and House, Michigan House, Ohio Senate and House, and Pennsylvania Senate and House.

Although most legislatures require interim committee meetings to be open, almost half of the chambers give these committees the ability to close meetings (see table 02-6.37).

Notice requirements. Public understanding of the legislature and its work is important, and it is enhanced by access. One way that state legislatures increase access is by letting the public know when committee meetings will occur. The requirements for—and the timing of—meeting notices often vary among the different types of committees, however.

Most legislative assemblies require advance notice of standing committee meetings (see table 02-6.39); in fact, only 12 chambers reported that they do not. Although the Kansas and Oklahoma Houses do not specifically require that standing committees provide advance notice, it usually is given. The timing for standing committee meeting notices varies considerably, however, ranging from hours to weeks (see table 02-6.40).

Conference committees often occur late in the legislative session. As a result, advance notice of meetings may not be required (see table 02-6.41), or the notice deadlines are shorter than those for standing and interim committees (see table 02-6.42). The Arizona and Massachusetts Senate rules do not require advance notice for conference committee meetings, but the chambers' custom and practice is to provide it.

Most legislatures require advance notice of interim committee meetings (see table 02-6.43). Although no specific requirements exist in the Alaska Senate and House, the recent practice is to provide "reasonable notice." Table 02-6.44 shows the timing for interim committee notices, and it is often longer than for standing or conference committees.

Table 02-6.45 describes the information contained in meeting notices. The items most commonly included in a notice are the name of the committee and the date, time and location of the meeting. The items to be discussed usually must be included in the meeting notice as well. As table 02-6.46 shows, however, committees often have the ability to take up issues not listed.

Where may interested individuals or groups find legislative committee meeting notices? Most legislatures post meeting notices in the capitol or legislative building. Due to increased computer use, legislative assemblies now commonly enter notices into their computer systems and post meeting listings on their Internet or Intranet sites. Only 13 chambers reported that they advertise committee meetings in newspapers, and six use radio or television announcements (see tables 02-6.47-02.6-48).

Table 02-6.23 Floor Sessions Must Be Open**In the following chambers, floor sessions are required to be open.**

Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Hampshire House
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate and House
Colorado House	North Carolina House
Connecticut Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Georgia Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Hawaii House	Oregon Senate
Idaho Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Indiana House	South Dakota Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Kentucky Senate	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
Missouri Senate and House	Puerto Rico House

In the following chambers, floor sessions are not required to be open.

Delaware House	Kentucky House
Hawaii Senate	New Jersey Senate

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.24 Where Requirement for Open Floor Session Is Found

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Other
Alabama	B			
Alaska		B	B	
Arizona		B	B	
Arkansas	B	H		
California	B	S		
Colorado	H	H		
Connecticut	S			
Delaware				
Florida	B		B	
Georgia	B		S	
Hawaii			H	
Idaho	B			
Illinois	B			
Indiana	H	H		
Iowa	B			
Kansas		B	S	
Kentucky			S	
Louisiana	B	S	B	
Maine		S		2
Maryland	S	S		
Massachusetts		H	S	
Michigan	B			
Minnesota	B			
Mississippi		H		
Missouri	S	B		
Montana	B			
Nebraska	S			
Nevada	B		S	
New Hampshire	H			
New Jersey				
New Mexico	B			
New York				
North Carolina		H		
North Dakota	B			
Ohio	B	H		
Oklahoma	H	B	H	3
Oregon	S	S	S	

Table 02-6.24 Where Requirement for Open Floor Session Is Found, cont'd.

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Other
Pennsylvania	S	H		
Rhode Island		S		
South Carolina				
South Dakota	B			
Tennessee	S			
Texas	B	S	S	
Utah	B		H	
Vermont	B			
Virginia		B	H	
Washington	B			
West Virginia		B		
Wisconsin	B	B	H	
Wyoming	B			
American Samoa			H	
Puerto Rico	H		H	

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Maine: By tradition, the House holds open floor sessions.
3. Oklahoma: By practice, the House holds open floor sessions.

Table 02-6.25 Ability to Close Floor Sessions

In the following chambers, floor sessions may be closed by a vote of the body.	
Alabama Senate and House	Nevada Senate
Alaska Senate and House	New Jersey Senate
Arizona Senate and House	North Carolina House
Arkansas Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	Oklahoma Senate and House
Colorado House	Pennsylvania Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Iowa Senate and House	Texas Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana Senate	Vermont Senate
Maine Senate	Virginia House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Michigan Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	American Samoa House
Mississippi House	Puerto Rico House
In the following chambers, floor sessions cannot be closed by a vote of the body.	
Connecticut Senate	Nebraska Senate
Delaware House	Nevada Assembly
Florida House	New Hampshire House
Georgia Senate and House	New Mexico Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Indiana House	Oregon Senate
Kentucky Senate and House	Pennsylvania House
Louisiana House	Rhode Island Senate
Maine House	Texas House
Massachusetts House	Vermont House
Missouri Senate and House	Virginia Senate
Montana Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.26 Vote Required to Close Floor Session

State (1)	Majority of the members elected	Majority of the members present and voting	Three-fifths of the members present and voting	Two-thirds of the members elected	Two-thirds of the members present and voting	Other
Alabama		S				2
Alaska		B				
Arizona	H	S				
Arkansas	B					
California		S		H		
Colorado	H					
Connecticut						
Delaware						
Florida						3
Georgia		S				
Hawaii		B				
Idaho						
Illinois				B		
Indiana						
Iowa		S				
Kansas	H					
Kentucky						
Louisiana				S		
Maine			S			
Maryland		S				
Massachusetts						
Michigan	S					4
Minnesota		H				5
Mississippi			H			
Missouri						
Montana						
Nebraska						
Nevada		S				
New Hampshire						
New Jersey		S				
New Mexico						
New York						
North Carolina		H				
North Dakota						
Ohio					B	
Oklahoma		H			S	6
Oregon						

Table 02-6.26 Vote Required to Close Floor Session, cont'd.

State (1)	Majority of the members elected	Majority of the members present and voting	Three-fifths of the members present and voting	Two-thirds of the members elected	Two-thirds of the members present and voting	Other
Pennsylvania		S				
Rhode Island						
South Carolina						
South Dakota						7
Tennessee						8
Texas	S					
Utah					B	
Vermont					S	
Virginia		H				
Washington		B				
West Virginia						
Wisconsin	S	B				
Wyoming						9
American Samoa		H				
Puerto Rico		H	H			

Table 02-6.26 Vote Required to Close Floor Session, cont'd.

<p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">S=SenateH=House or AssemblyB=Both chambers <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.2. Alabama: The House did not provide a description.3. Florida: The constitution authorizes closed sessions of the Senate when appointments for public office are being considered, but it does not specify the vote requirement.4. Michigan: A floor session also may be closed for safety reasons by order of the Senate president or House speaker.5. Minnesota: According to the Senate, the constitution does not specify the vote requirement.6. Oklahoma: In case of disturbances or disorderly conduct, a floor session also may be closed by the House speaker or a member who is presiding.7. South Dakota: The constitution does not specify a vote requirement for either chamber.8. Tennessee: The Senate requires a vote of three-fourths of the members present and voting.9. Wyoming: The constitution does not specify a vote requirement for either chamber.

Table 02-6.27 Standing Committee Meetings Must Be Open**In the following chambers, standing committee meetings must be open to the public.**

Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Hampshire House
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate and House
Colorado House	North Carolina House
Connecticut Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Delaware House	Ohio Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Georgia Senate and House	Oregon Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Illinois Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Indiana House	Tennessee Senate
Iowa Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Louisiana Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
Maryland Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Michigan Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	American Samoa House
Mississippi House	Puerto Rico House
Missouri Senate and House	

In the following chamber, standing committee meetings are not required to be open.

New Jersey Senate

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.28 Where Requirement for Open Standing Committee Meetings Is Found

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule
Alabama		B		
Alaska		B	B	
Arizona		B	B	
Arkansas	H	B	H	
California	S	S	H	
Colorado		H		
Connecticut				S
Delaware			H	
Florida	B		B	
Georgia	B		S	
Hawaii	S		H	
Idaho	B	B	B	
Illinois	B			
Indiana		H	H	
Iowa			B	
Kansas		B	S	
Kentucky			S	H
Louisiana	B	S	H	
Maine		S	H	
Maryland		S		
Massachusetts			B	
Michigan	H	S		
Minnesota	H	B	S	
Mississippi		H		
Missouri		B		
Montana	B		B	
Nebraska			S	
Nevada	B			
New Hampshire		H		
New Jersey				
New Mexico	H	B	S	
New York				
North Carolina		H		
North Dakota	B			
Ohio	S	B	S	
Oklahoma		S	H	
Oregon	S	S	S	S

Table 02-6.28 Where Requirement for Open Standing Committee Meetings Is Found, cont'd.

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule
Pennsylvania		B		
Rhode Island		S		
South Carolina				
South Dakota	B			
Tennessee				S
Texas	S	B	B	
Utah		B	S	S
Vermont	S			
Virginia		B	B	
Washington			B	
West Virginia		B		
Wisconsin	H	B	B	
Wyoming			B	
American Samoa			H	
Puerto Rico	H		H	H

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.29 Ability to Close Standing Committee Meetings**In the following chambers, a standing committee meeting may be closed by a vote of the committee.**

Alaska Senate and House	Mississippi House
Arizona Senate and House	Missouri House
Arkansas House	Nebraska Senate
California Senate and Assembly	Nevada Senate
Colorado House	New Jersey Senate
Delaware House	New Mexico Senate
Georgia Senate and House	North Carolina House
Hawaii Senate	Oklahoma Senate and House
Idaho Senate	Tennessee Senate
Illinois House	Texas Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Maine Senate	Virginia Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate
Massachusetts Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Michigan Senate	Wyoming Senate and House
Minnesota House	American Samoa House

In the following chambers, a standing committee meeting cannot be closed by a vote of the committee.

Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	Nevada Assembly
Connecticut Senate	New Hampshire House
Florida House	New Mexico House
Hawaii House	North Dakota Senate and House
Idaho House	Ohio House
Illinois Senate	Oregon Senate
Indiana House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Iowa Senate	Rhode Island Senate
Kentucky Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Maine House	Texas House
Michigan House	Washington House
Minnesota Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Missouri Senate	Puerto Rico House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.30 Vote Required to Close a Standing Committee Meeting

State (1)	Majority of the members appointed	Majority of the members present and voting	Three-fifths of the members present and voting	Two-thirds of the members appointed	Two-thirds of the members present and voting	Other
Alabama						
Alaska		B				
Arizona		B				
Arkansas	H					
California	S	H				
Colorado						2
Connecticut						
Delaware						3
Florida						4
Georgia	H	S				
Hawaii		S				
Idaho				H		
Illinois						5
Indiana						
Iowa						
Kansas	H					
Kentucky						
Louisiana		H		S		
Maine			S			
Maryland		S				
Massachusetts		B				
Michigan	S					
Minnesota		H				
Mississippi			H			
Missouri	H					
Montana						
Nebraska	S					
Nevada		S				
New Hampshire						
New Jersey		S				
New Mexico		S				6
New York						
North Carolina		H				
North Dakota						
Ohio						
Oklahoma		H				7
Oregon						

Table 02-6.30 Vote Required to Close a Standing Committee Meeting, cont'd.

State	Majority of the members appointed	Majority of the members present and voting	Three-fifths of the members present and voting	Two-thirds of the members appointed	Two-thirds of the members present and voting	Other
Pennsylvania						
Rhode Island						
South Carolina						
South Dakota						
Tennessee						8
Texas	S					
Utah					B	
Vermont					S	
Virginia		B				
Washington		H				
West Virginia						
Wisconsin		B				
Wyoming	B					
American Samoa		H				
Puerto Rico						

Table 02-6.30 Vote Required to Close a Standing Committee Meeting, cont'd.**Key:**

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Colorado: In the House, a standing committee meeting may be closed upon the vote of three-fourths of the members appointed to the committee.
3. Delaware: In the House, Rule 33(d) permits a committee chair to call an executive session.
4. Florida: The president of the Senate—after consultation with appropriate law enforcement, public health, emergency management or security authorities—may close committee meetings to allow discussion of certain security issues.
5. Illinois: Committee meetings may be closed to the public when, by a recorded vote of two-thirds of the members elected, the House determines that to do so is in the best public interest.
6. New Mexico: By Senate rule, a committee meeting is closed automatically when discussion on selected issues takes place.
7. Oklahoma: In the House, the committee chair also may call an executive session.
8. Tennessee: In the Senate, a standing committee meeting may be closed upon the vote of three-fourths of the committee members present and voting.

Table 02-6.31 Conference Committee Meetings Must Be Open

In the following chambers, conference committee meetings must be open to the public.	
Alabama Senate and House	Missouri Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Hampshire House
California Senate and Assembly	North Dakota Senate and House
Colorado House	Ohio Senate
Connecticut Senate	Oklahoma House
Florida Senate and House	Oregon Senate
Georgia Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Idaho Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Indiana House	Texas Senate and House
Kansas House	Utah Senate and House
Kentucky Senate	Vermont Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
In the following chambers, conference committee meetings are not required to be open.	
Illinois House	North Carolina House
Iowa Senate and House	Ohio House
Kentucky House	Oklahoma Senate
Louisiana Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
New Mexico Senate and House	Puerto Rico House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.32 Where Requirement for Open Conference Committee Meetings Is Found

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule
Alabama			B	
Alaska		B	B	
Arizona		B	B	
Arkansas	H	B	H	
California	S	S	B	
Colorado		H		
Connecticut				S
Delaware				
Florida	B		B	
Georgia	B		S	
Hawaii			B	
Idaho	B	B	B	
Illinois			S	
Indiana		H	H	
Iowa				
Kansas		B	S	
Kentucky			S	
Louisiana				
Maine		B		
Maryland		S		
Massachusetts			B	
Michigan	H	S		
Minnesota		B	S	
Mississippi			H	
Missouri		B		
Montana			B	
Nebraska				
Nevada	B		S	
New Hampshire		H		
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota	B			
Ohio	S	S	S	
Oklahoma			H	
Oregon		S	S	

Table 02-6.32 Where Requirement for Open Conference Committee Meetings Is Found, cont'd.

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule
Pennsylvania		B		
Rhode Island		S		
South Carolina				
South Dakota		B		
Tennessee				
Texas	S	S	B	
Utah		B	B	S
Vermont	B			
Virginia		B		
Washington			B	
West Virginia		B		
Wisconsin	H	B	B	
Wyoming	B			
American Samoa			H	
Puerto Rico				

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.33 Ability to Close Conference Committee Meetings

In the following chambers, a conference committee meeting may be closed by a vote of the committee.	
Alaska Senate and House	Massachusetts Senate and House
Arkansas House	Mississippi House
California Assembly	Nevada Senate
Colorado House	Oklahoma House
Georgia Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Virginia House
Kansas Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Maine Senate	American Samoa House
Maryland Senate	Puerto Rico House
In the following chambers, a conference committee meeting cannot be closed.	
Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Assembly
Arkansas Senate	New Hampshire House
California Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Connecticut Senate	Ohio House
Florida Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Oregon Senate
Idaho Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Indiana House	Rhode Island Senate
Kentucky Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana Senate	Texas Senate and House
Maine House	Vermont Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Virginia Senate
Minnesota Senate and House	Washington House
Missouri Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.34 Vote Required to Close a Conference Committee Meeting

Majority of the members appointed to the committee	
Arkansas House	Kansas House
Georgia House	Massachusetts Senate
Iowa House	
Majority of the committee members present and voting	
Alaska Senate and House	Virginia House
Iowa Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Massachusetts House	American Samoa House
Nevada Senate	Puerto Rico House
Oklahoma House	
Supermajority vote requirement	
Colorado House (3/4 appointed)	Mississippi House (3/5 present)
Georgia Senate (2/3 appointed)	Utah Senate and House (2/3 present)
Maine Senate (3/5 present)	Puerto Rico House (3/5 appointed)

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.35 Interim Committee Meetings Must Be Open

In the following chambers, interim committee meetings must be open to the public.	
Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Hampshire House
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate and House
Colorado House	North Carolina House
Connecticut Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Georgia Senate and House	Oregon Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Idaho Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Illinois Senate	Tennessee Senate
Indiana House	Texas Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Washington House
Maryland Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
Missouri Senate and House	Puerto Rico
In the following chambers, interim committee meetings are not required to be open.	
Iowa Senate and House	Washington Senate

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.36 Where Requirement for Open Interim Committee Meetings Is Found

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule	Other
Alabama		B			
Alaska		B	B		
Arizona		B	B		
Arkansas	H	B	H		
California	S	S	H		
Colorado		H			
Connecticut				S	
Delaware					
Florida	B		B		
Georgia	S		B		
Hawaii	S		H		
Idaho	B	B			
Illinois					2
Indiana		H			
Iowa					
Kansas		B	S		
Kentucky				H	3
Louisiana	H	S	B		
Maine		S	H		
Maryland		S			
Massachusetts					
Michigan		S			
Minnesota		B	S		
Mississippi		H			
Missouri		B			
Montana	B				
Nebraska			S		
Nevada	H	S			
New Hampshire		H			
New Jersey					
New Mexico		H			
New York					
North Carolina		H			
North Dakota	B				
Ohio					
Oklahoma		S	H		
Oregon	S	S	S	S	

Table 02-6.36 Where Requirement for Open Interim Committee Meetings Is Found, cont'd.

State (1)	Constitution	Statute	Joint, Senate or House rule	Committee rule	Other
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island		S			
South Carolina					
South Dakota				B	
Tennessee				S	
Texas	S	B	B		
Utah		B	S	S	
Vermont	S	H			
Virginia		B	H		
Washington			H		
West Virginia		B			
Wisconsin	H	B	B		
Wyoming			B		
American Samoa			H		
Puerto Rico	H		H	H	

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Illinois: The Senate uses the same process for interim committees as it does for standing committees.
3. Kentucky: Senate interim committees follow Legislative Research Commission policy.

Table 02-6.37 Ability to Close Interim Committee Meetings

In the following chambers, an interim committee meeting may be closed by a vote of the committee.	
Alaska Senate and House	Missouri House
Arizona Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Arkansas House	Nevada Senate
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate
Colorado House	North Carolina House
Georgia Senate and House	Oklahoma House
Hawaii Senate	Tennessee Senate
Idaho Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Iowa Senate	Vermont Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maine Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Maryland Senate	Wyoming Senate and House
Michigan Senate	American Samoa House
Mississippi House	Puerto Rico House
In the following chambers, an interim committee meeting cannot be closed.	
Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	Nevada Assembly
Connecticut Senate	New Hampshire House
Florida House	New Mexico House
Hawaii House	North Dakota Senate and House
Illinois Senate	Oklahoma Senate
Indiana House	Oregon Senate
Kentucky Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Louisiana Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Maine House	Texas Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	Washington House
Missouri Senate	West Virginia Senate and House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.38 Vote Required to Close an Interim Committee Meeting

Majority of the members appointed to the committee	
Arkansas House	Michigan Senate
California Senate	Missouri House
Georgia House	Nebraska Senate
Kansas House	Wyoming Senate and House
Majority of the committee members present and voting	
Arizona Senate and House	New Mexico Senate
California Assembly	North Carolina House
Georgia Senate	Oklahoma House
Hawaii Senate	Virginia Senate and House
Iowa Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Maryland Senate	American Samoa House
Nevada Senate	Puerto Rico House
Supermajority vote requirement	
Colorado House (3/4 appointed)	Tennessee Senate (3/4 present)
Idaho Senate and House (2/3 appointed)	Utah Senate and House (2/3 present)
Maine Senate (3/5 present)	Vermont Senate (2/3 present)
Mississippi House (3/5 present)	Puerto Rico House (3/5 or 3/4 appointed)

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.39 Advance Notice of Standing Committee Meetings**In the following chambers, advance notice of standing committee meetings is required.**

Alabama House	Nebraska Senate
Alaska Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arizona Senate and House	New Hampshire House
Arkansas Senate and House	New Jersey Senate
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate
Colorado House	North Carolina House
Connecticut Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Delaware House	Ohio Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate
Georgia Senate	Oregon Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Idaho House	Rhode Island Senate
Illinois Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Indiana House	Tennessee Senate
Iowa House	Texas Senate and House
Kansas Senate	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Maine Senate and House	Virginia House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	West Virginia Senate
Michigan Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
Missouri Senate and House	Puerto Rico House
Montana Senate and House	

In the following chambers, advance notice of standing committee meetings is not required.

Alabama Senate	New Mexico House
Georgia House	Oklahoma House
Idaho Senate	Vermont House
Iowa Senate	Virginia Senate
Kansas House	West Virginia House
Kentucky Senate and House	

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.40 Timing for Standing Committee Meeting Notices

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	Other
Alabama			H					
Alaska								2
Arizona							S	3
Arkansas	S		H					
California						B		
Colorado		H						
Connecticut							S	
Delaware								4
Florida				B				5
Georgia								6
Hawaii				H	S			
Idaho								7
Illinois								8
Indiana								9
Iowa			H					
Kansas	B	H						
Kentucky								
Louisiana			S					10
Maine								11
Maryland	S							
Massachusetts	S			H				
Michigan								12
Minnesota		S			B			
Mississippi	H							13
Missouri			B					
Montana					B			
Nebraska								14
Nevada	B							
New Hampshire			H	H		H		
New Jersey							S	
New Mexico								15
New York								
North Carolina	H							
North Dakota					B			
Ohio			B				H	
Oklahoma			S					
Oregon			S					16

Table 02-6.40 Timing for Standing Committee Meeting Notices, cont'd.

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	Other
Pennsylvania			B					
Rhode Island				S				
South Carolina								
South Dakota				B				
Tennessee								17
Texas			S				H	18
Utah			B					
Vermont	S							
Virginia					H			19
Washington							B	
West Virginia		S						
Wisconsin			B					20
Wyoming			B					
American Samoa		H						
Puerto Rico					H			

Table 02-6.40 Timing for Standing Committee Meeting Notices, cont'd.

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Alaska: The Senate and House require that standing committees provide notice of their meetings by 4 p.m. on Thursday of the week preceding the meeting.
3. Arizona: The House requires that standing committees provide notice of their meetings by 4 p.m. on Wednesday or Thursday of the week preceding the meeting.
4. Delaware: Notice of the next meetings of House standing committees is released on the last legislative day of each week.
5. Florida: After the 50th day of session, Senate standing committees may meet following an announcement of the meeting by the committee chair or vice chair during session and upon the posting of a notice on the bulletin board in the public corridor leading to the Senate chamber at least four hours before the meeting. After the 45th day of session, any House standing committee must provide notice one day prior to its meeting.
6. Georgia: In the Senate, standing committees normally must provide notice one week before their meetings. For any "specially called" meeting, however, only one-day notice is required.
7. Idaho: There is no required time, but the House requests that committees provide notice 48 hours in advance of their meetings.
8. Illinois: The Senate and House require standing committees to provide notice six days in advance.
9. Indiana: In the House, except for hearings on the budget bill, all standing committee meetings must be announced on the preceding session day, and notices must be posted as soon as possible.
10. Louisiana: In the House, standing committees must post meeting notices no later than 4 p.m. on the day before or the day after the House convenes, whichever is later. Each committee also must post a notice for the subsequent week's meeting by the day after its last meeting in a calendar week.
11. Maine: The Senate and House require that standing committees provide two weeks' notice.
12. Michigan: The Senate and House require that a standing committee provide 18 hours' notice of its meeting.
13. Mississippi: Meetings of House standing committees must be announced during open session of the House.

Table 02-6.40 Timing for Standing Committee Meeting Notices, cont'd.

14. Nebraska: A standing committee may call executive session at any time. The clerk of the Legislature is required, however, to announce the executive session from the rostrum.
15. New Mexico: In the Senate, standing committees must provide notice of their meetings by the Friday of the previous week.
16. Oregon: In the Senate, when sine die adjournment is imminent, the president may invoke a one-hour notice rule.
17. Tennessee: The Senate requires standing committees to provide notice six days before a meeting is held.
18. Texas: In the House, the posting requirement for a formal meeting in which testimony will not be taken is either two hours in advance or by announcement from the floor during session immediately prior to the meeting.
19. Virginia: In the House, "non-regularly scheduled" meetings are permitted when notice is given with as much time as possible under reasonable circumstances.
20. Wisconsin: The Senate and House allow two-hour emergency notice for good cause.

Table 02-6.41 Advance Notice of Conference Committee Meetings

In the following chambers, advance notice of conference committee meetings is required.	
Alabama House	New Hampshire House
Arizona House	North Dakota Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	Ohio Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	Oregon Senate
Colorado House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Indiana House	Texas House
Kansas Senate and House	Utah House
Maryland Senate	Virginia House
Michigan Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	West Virginia Senate
Mississippi House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Missouri Senate and House	American Samoa House
Montana Senate and House	Puerto Rico House
Nevada Senate and Assembly	
In the following chambers, advance notice of conference committee meetings is not required.	
Alabama Senate	Massachusetts House
Alaska Senate and House	New Mexico Senate and House
Arkansas House	North Carolina House
Connecticut Senate	Oklahoma Senate and House
Georgia Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Texas Senate
Illinois Senate and House	Utah Senate
Iowa Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	Virginia Senate
Louisiana House	West Virginia House
Maine Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.42 Timing for Conference Committee Meeting Notices

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	Other
Alabama		H			
Alaska					
Arizona			B		
Arkansas	S				
California			S	H	
Colorado		H			
Connecticut					
Delaware					
Florida					2
Georgia					
Hawaii			B		
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					3
Iowa					
Kansas	B	H			
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland	S				
Massachusetts			S		
Michigan					4
Minnesota		B			
Mississippi	H				
Missouri	S	B			
Montana	B				
Nebraska					
Nevada	B				
New Hampshire		H			
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota	B				
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon			S		5

Table 02-6.42 Timing for Conference Committee Meeting Notices, cont'd.

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	Other
Pennsylvania	H		S		
Rhode Island				S	
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee	S				
Texas					6
Utah		H			
Vermont					
Virginia		H			
Washington	S		H		
West Virginia		S			
Wisconsin			S		7
Wyoming					
American Samoa					8
Puerto Rico					9

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Florida: In the Senate, before the 50th day of session, conference committees must file a notice with the secretary of the Senate at least two hours in advance of a meeting; after the 50th day, the notice must be filed not less than one hour before the meeting. In the House, conference committees must give two hours' notice.
3. Indiana: In the House, conference committees must give two hours' notice.
4. Michigan: In the Senate and House, conference committees must give six hours' notice.
5. Oregon: In the Senate, when sine die adjournment is imminent, the president may invoke a one-hour notice rule.
6. Texas: In the House, conference committees are asked to give reasonable notice.
7. Wisconsin: The Senate and House allow two-hour emergency notice for good cause.
8. American Samoa: Conference committees of the House must give one-week notice.
9. Puerto Rico: Conference committees of the House must give three or five days' notice.

Table 02-6.43 Advance Notice of Interim Committee Meetings

In the following chambers, advance notice of interim committee meetings is required.	
Arizona Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Arkansas Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
California Senate and Assembly	New Hampshire House
Colorado House	New Mexico Senate and House
Connecticut Senate	North Carolina House
Florida Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Georgia Senate	Oklahoma Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	Oregon Senate
Idaho Senate and House	Rhode Island Senate
Illinois Senate	Tennessee Senate
Indiana House	Texas Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Virginia House
Maine Senate and House	Washington Senate
Maryland Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
Missouri Senate and House	Puerto Rico House
In the following chambers, advance notice of interim committee meetings is not required.	
Alabama Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Alaska Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Georgia House	Virginia Senate
Iowa Senate and House	Washington House

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.44 Timing for Interim Committee Meeting Notices

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	10 days	Other
Alabama										
Alaska										
Arizona			S	H						
Arkansas		S	H							
California						B				
Colorado		H								
Connecticut							S			
Delaware										
Florida										2
Georgia		S								
Hawaii	S			H						
Idaho				B						
Illinois								S		
Indiana				H						
Iowa										
Kansas	B	H								
Kentucky										3
Louisiana			S						H	
Maine	S	H								
Maryland	S									
Massachusetts										
Michigan										4
Minnesota	H	S								
Mississippi	H									
Missouri			B							
Montana	B									
Nebraska										
Nevada	H				S					
New Hampshire			H							
New Jersey										
New Mexico		H							S	
New York										
North Carolina	H									
North Dakota	B									
Ohio										
Oklahoma			S						H	5
Oregon			S							6

Table 02-6.44 Timing for Interim Committee Meeting Notices, cont'd.

State (1)	Timing for notice is not specified	As much time as possible	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	10 days	Other
Pennsylvania										
Rhode Island				S						
South Carolina										
South Dakota										
Tennessee								S		
Texas			S				H			
Utah			B							
Vermont	B									
Virginia					H					
Washington							S			
West Virginia		S							H	
Wisconsin			S							7
Wyoming									B	
American Samoa	H									
Puerto Rico					H		H			

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Florida: In the Senate, at least seven days prior to a meeting when the Legislature is not in session, a notice must be filed with the secretary of the Senate, who notifies the membership and the public. In the House, interim committees must provide notice seven calendar days before the Friday preceding the week of the meeting.
3. Kentucky: In the Senate and House, interim committees must provide two weeks' notice.
4. Michigan: In the Senate, interim committees must provide 18 hours' notice.
5. Oklahoma: The House requirement for 10-day notice does not apply to a committee, subcommittee or an interim study assigned for joint study.
6. Oregon: In the Senate, notice usually is given two weeks to one month prior to an interim meeting.
7. Wisconsin: The Senate and House allow two-hour emergency notice for good cause.

Table 02-6.45 Items Included in a Meeting Notice

State (1)	Name of the committee	Name of the committee chair	Date(s) of the meeting	Time of the meeting	Location of the meeting	Items to be discussed	Other
Alabama	B		B	B	B	H	
Alaska	B		B	B	B	B	2
Arizona	B	B	B	B	B	B	3
Arkansas	B	B	B	B	B	B	
California	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Colorado	H		H	H	H	H	
Connecticut	S		S	S	S	S	
Delaware	H		H	H	H	H	
Florida	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Georgia	S		S	S	S	S	
Hawaii	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Idaho	B		B	B	B	B	
Illinois	H	H	B	B	B	B	
Indiana			H	H	H	H	
Iowa	S		S	S	S	S	
Kansas	B	H	B	B	B	H	
Kentucky	B		B	B	B	B	
Louisiana	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Maine	B		B	B	B	B	
Maryland	S		S	S	S		
Massachusetts	B		B	H	B	B	
Michigan	B	H	B	B	B	B	
Minnesota	B	H	B	B	B	B	
Mississippi	H		H	H	H		
Missouri	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Montana							
Nebraska	S		S	S	S	S	
Nevada	B		B	B	B	B	
New Hampshire	H		H	H	H		
New Jersey							
New Mexico	B		B	B	B	B	
New York							
North Carolina	H		H	H	H		
North Dakota	B		B	B	B	B	
Ohio	B		B	B	B	H	
Oklahoma	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Oregon	S		S	S	S	S	

Table 02-6.45 Items Included in a Meeting Notice, cont'd.

State (1)	Name of the committee	Name of the committee chair	Date(s) of the meeting	Time of the meeting	Location of the meeting	Items to be discussed	Other
Pennsylvania	B	S	B	B	B	B	
Rhode Island	S		S	S	S	S	
South Carolina							
South Dakota							
Tennessee	S		S	S	S	S	
Texas	B	S	B	B	B	B	
Utah	H	H	B	B	B	B	
Vermont	B		B	B	B	H	
Virginia			B	B	B		4
Washington	B		B	B	B	B	
West Virginia	B	H	B	B	B	H	
Wisconsin	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Wyoming	B	B	B	B	B	B	
American Samoa	H	H	H	H	H	H	
Puerto Rico	H		H	H	H	H	

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Alaska: In the Senate and House, committees must indicate if it is the first public hearing.
3. Arizona: In the House, meeting notices include the names of all committee members.
4. Virginia: In the House, the name of the committee is not required, but it always is included; committees also must indicate if public comment is to be heard.

Table 02-6.46 Committees May Take Up Items Not Listed in Notice**In the following chambers, committees may take up items that are not listed in the meeting notice.**

Alabama Senate	Montana Senate and House
Arkansas Senate and House	Nevada Senate
Colorado House	New Mexico Senate and House
Delaware House	North Carolina House
Georgia Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Pennsylvania House
Kentucky Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana Senate	Texas House
Maine House	Vermont Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Virginia Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate	Washington Senate and House
Michigan House	West Virginia House
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Mississippi House	American Samoa House
Missouri Senate and House	

In the following chambers, committees cannot take up items that are not listed in the meeting notice.

Alabama House	Nebraska Senate
Alaska Senate and House	Nevada Assembly
Arizona Senate and House	Oregon Senate
California Senate and Assembly	Pennsylvania Senate
Connecticut Senate	Rhode Island Senate
Florida Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Texas Senate
Illinois House	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana House	Wisconsin Senate and House
Massachusetts House	Puerto Rico House
Michigan Senate	

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.47 Main Methods Used to Publicize Committee Meetings

State (1)	Post notices in the capitol or legislative building	Enter notices into legislative computer system	Post notices on Senate or House Internet site	Post notices on the Senate or House Intranet site	Distribute individual notices	List notices in the calendar or other legislative publication	Announce meetings from the floor
Alabama	B	B	B	B			
Alaska	B	B	B		B	B	B
Arizona	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Arkansas	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
California	S	S	S			B	B
Colorado	H	H	H	H		H	H
Connecticut	S	S	S			S	S
Delaware	H	H	H	H	H		H
Florida	B	B	B	S	H	B	B
Georgia	B	B	H	H	H		B
Hawaii	B	B	B	B	B	H	B
Idaho	B	B	B		B	B	B
Illinois	B	B	B		B	B	S
Indiana	H	H	H				H
Iowa	B	B	B	S	B	B	B
Kansas	B	H		H	B	B	B
Kentucky	B	B	B	H	B	B	B
Louisiana	B	B	B		B	B	B
Maine	B	B	B	S	B	B	B
Maryland		S	S			S	
Massachusetts	B	B	B		S	H	
Michigan	B	B	B	S	B	B	S
Minnesota	B	B	B	B	B	S	B
Mississippi	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Missouri	B	B	B	H	B	H	B
Montana	B	B	B		B	B	B
Nebraska	S	S	S	S		S	S
Nevada	B	S	B	S	H	B	S
New Hampshire	H	H	H			H	H
New Jersey							
New Mexico	H	H	S	S	S	B	S
New York							
North Carolina	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
North Dakota		B	B			B	B
Ohio	B		S	H	B	H	B
Oklahoma	B		B		H	H	H
Oregon	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

Table 02-6.47 Main Methods Used to Publicize Committee Meetings, cont'd.

State (1)	Post notices in the capitol or legislative building	Enter notices into legislative computer system	Post notices on Senate or House Internet site	Post notices on the Senate or House Intranet site	Distribute individual notices	List notices in the calendar or other legislative publication	Announce meetings from the floor
Pennsylvania	B	B	S	S	B	S	S
Rhode Island	S	S	S			S	S
South Carolina							
South Dakota							
Tennessee	S	S	S			S	
Texas	B	B	B	B	S	S	B
Utah	B	H	B			H	S
Vermont	B	B	S		S	B	B
Virginia	H	B	B	B	B	B	B
Washington	H	B	B	S	B	B	S
West Virginia	B	B	H			B	B
Wisconsin	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Wyoming		B	B	B	B	B	B
American Samoa					H	H	H
Puerto Rico					H		H

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 02-6.48 Other Methods Used to Publicize Committee Meetings

State (1)	Display notices on video monitor	Advertise in the newspaper	Announce meetings via radio or television	Other
Alabama	H			
Alaska		B		
Arizona	B			
Arkansas				
California	B			
Colorado				
Connecticut	S			
Delaware				
Florida	B			
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho		B	S	
Illinois				
Indiana				
Iowa	B			2
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana	B			
Maine	H	B		
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan	S			
Minnesota	B	S	S	
Mississippi				
Missouri				
Montana	B	B		
Nebraska		S	S	
Nevada	S			3
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico	H			
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota	B			
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				4

Table 02-6.48 Other Methods Used to Publicize Committee Meetings, cont'd.

State (1)	Display notices on video monitor	Advertise in the newspaper	Announce meetings via radio or television	Other
Pennsylvania	S	H		
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee	S			
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont			S	5
Virginia	B	H	H	
Washington				
West Virginia	S			
Wisconsin				6
Wyoming				
American Samoa			H	
Puerto Rico		H		

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Colorado Senate, Connecticut House, Delaware Senate, Indiana Senate, Maryland House, Mississippi Senate, New Hampshire Senate, New Jersey General Assembly, New York Senate and Assembly, North Carolina Senate, Oregon House, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate and House, Tennessee House, American Samoa Senate, District of Columbia Council, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Iowa: The Senate is planning an e-mail subscription option for committee notices, minutes, etc.
3. Nevada: The House provides information on committee meetings to the news media.
4. Oregon: During the interim, the Senate mails a monthly legislative schedule publication.
5. Vermont: The Senate occasionally provides oral notice to individuals known to have an interest.
6. Wisconsin: The Senate is required to distribute this information to the media.