

If such court determines that such denial was not for just and proper cause under the terms of this act, it may enter such order for disclosure as it may deem proper.

APPROVED—The 21st day of June, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 213

AN ACT

Requiring that meetings of the governing bodies of political subdivisions and of certain authorities and other agencies performing essential governmental functions shall be open to the public.

Public meetings
by public bodies.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Definitions.

Section 1. In this act the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(A) "Board." The board of county commissioners of any county, the council of any city, borough or incorporated town, the board of commissioners of any township of the first class, the board of supervisors of any township of the second class, the school board of any school district or the board, commission or other governing body of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission or of any State or municipal authority or similar organization created by, or pursuant to, a statute which declares, in substance, that such organization performs or has for its purpose the performance of an essential governmental function and that its bonds shall not pledge the faith or credit or be obligations of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision.

(B) "Public Meeting." That part of any meeting of a board during which it votes upon any ordinance, resolution, motion or other official action proposed by or to the board dealing with the receipt, borrowing or disbursement of funds or the acquisition, use or disposal of services or of any supplies, materials, equipment or other property or the fixing of personal or property rights, privileges, immunities, duties or obligations of any person or group of persons: Provided, That the term "Public Meeting" shall not mean any meeting, the publication of the facts concerning which would disclose the institution, progress or result of an investigation undertaken by a board in the performance of its official duties.

Public meetings
to be open to
public.

Section 2. Every public meeting of a board shall be open to the public.

Notice of time
and place of
public meetings.

Section 3. Every board shall hold all public meetings, at specified times and places, of which public notice shall

be given. Public notice of the schedule of regular meetings shall be given once for each calendar or fiscal year, and shall show the regular dates and times for meetings and the place at which meetings are held. Public notice of each special meeting and of each rescheduled regular or special meeting shall be given of the date, time and place of each meeting. Public notice shall be given (1) by posting a copy of the notice prominently at the principal office of the body holding the meeting or at the public building in which the meeting is to be held, or (2) by publishing the notice, once, in one newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision where the meeting will be held, at least three days prior to the time of the first regularly scheduled meeting in the case of regular meetings, and at least twelve hours prior to the time of the meeting in the case of special or rescheduled meetings. Publication in the legal periodical of the county shall not be required. The body holding any meeting shall supply, on request, copies of the public notice thereof to any newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision in which the meeting will be held and to any radio station which regularly broadcasts into the political subdivision.

Regular meeting notice.

Special meeting notice.

Procedure of public notice.

Copy of public notice to be supplied on request.

Section 4. Any member of a board who participates *in any public meeting, knowing that it is being held or conducted in violation of the provisions of section 2 of this act, upon summary conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not less than ten dollars (\$10) nor more than twenty-five dollars (\$25) and costs of prosecution.

Penalty.

Section 5. The act of May 31, 1947 (P. L. 334), entitled "An act requiring that all meetings of legislative bodies of political subdivisions and of boards, commissions and authorities, created by or operating as agencies of political subdivisions at which ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations and other actions are adopted to be open to the public; permitting the holding of executive sessions from which the public is excluded, but prohibiting the adoption of ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations at such sessions," and section 424, act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30), known as the "Public School Code of 1949," added May 9, 1949 (P. L. 939) are repealed.

Repeal.

APPROVED—The 21st day of June, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

* "in" omitted in original.