

§403. Meetings to be open to public; record of meetings

1. Proceedings open to public. Except as otherwise provided by statute or by section 405, all public proceedings must be open to the public and any person must be permitted to attend a public proceeding.

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

2. Record of public proceedings. Unless otherwise provided by law, a record of each public proceeding for which notice is required under section 406 must be made within a reasonable period of time after the proceeding and must be open to public inspection. At a minimum, the record must include:

A. The date, time and place of the public proceeding; [PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

B. The members of the body holding the public proceeding recorded as either present or absent; and [PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

C. All motions and votes taken, by individual member, if there is a roll call. [PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

3. Audio or video recording. An audio, video or other electronic recording of a public proceeding satisfies the requirements of subsection 2.

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

4. Maintenance of record. Record management requirements and retention schedules adopted under Title 5, chapter 6 apply to records required under this section.

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

5. Validity of action. The validity of any action taken in a public proceeding is not affected by the failure to make or maintain a record as required by this section.

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

6. Advisory bodies exempt from record requirements. Subsection 2 does not apply to advisory bodies that make recommendations but have no decision-making authority.

[PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1969, c. 293 (AMD). PL 1975, c. 422, §1 (AMD). PL 1975, c. 758 (RPR). PL 2009, c. 240, §1 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 320, Pt. C, §1 (RPR).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature and is current through October 15, 2024. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.