

June 12, 2024

Act 133 (S.55) Amendments to Open Meeting Law to Take Effect July 1, 2024





Act 133 (S.55) is a permanent amendment to Vermont's Open Meeting Law that:

- permits “advisory bodies” – those that do not have supervision, control, or jurisdiction over legislative, quasi-judicial, tax, or budgetary matters – to meet electronically without a physical meeting location (i.e., remotely);
- requires all other public bodies (i.e., “nonadvisory bodies”) to record, in audio or video form, their meetings and post the recordings in a designated electronic location for a minimum of 30 days following the approval and posting of the official minutes of the meeting which was recorded;
- allows all public bodies to meet remotely in response to a state of emergency or “local incident”;
- requires all public bodies to provide local residents, members of the press, or members of the body itself electronic/telephonic or in-person meeting access options to a regularly scheduled meeting, if requested (unless it causes an undue hardship);
- requires a municipality to post on its website (if it maintains one):



- an explanation of the procedures for submitting notice of an Open Meeting Law violation to the public body or the Attorney General; and
- a copy of the text of [1 V.S.A. § 314](#); and
- imposes annual training requirements on selectboard chairs, town managers, and mayors.

The training requirements take effect on January 1, 2025.

VLCT's staff attorneys developed new [Act 133 \(S.55\) Open Meeting Law FAQs](#) in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Vermont School Boards Association. If you have any questions remaining after reading these FAQs, please direct them to vlct.org/askvlct, info@vlct.org, or 1-800-649-7915.

