

## CHAPTER 2024-17

### Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 224

An act relating to citizen volunteer advisory committees; amending s. 286.011, F.S.; authorizing specified regional citizen volunteer advisory committees to conduct public meetings and workshops by means of communications media technology; providing that the use of such technology by a member constitutes that member's presence at the meeting or workshop; requiring that such technology allow all persons to audibly communicate; providing notice requirements for public meetings or workshops conducted by means of communications media technology; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 286.011, Florida Statutes, to read:

286.011 Public meetings and records; public inspection; criminal and civil penalties.—

(9)(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a regional citizen volunteer advisory committee, created to provide technical expertise and support to the National Estuary Program established by Congress under s. 320 of the Clean Water Act, whose membership is composed of representatives from four or more counties may conduct public meetings and workshops by means of communications media technology as defined in s. 120.54(5)(b)2. An advisory committee member who participates in a public meeting or workshop by communications media technology is deemed to be present at the meeting or workshop. The use of communications media technology must allow for all persons attending the meeting or workshop to audibly communicate as if the person is physically present.

(b) The notice for a public meeting or workshop must state whether the meeting or workshop will be conducted using communications media technology, how an interested person may participate, and the location of facilities where communications media technology will be available during the meeting or workshop.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor March 22, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State March 22, 2024.