

YOUNG, MINNEY & CORR, LLP

LEGAL ALERT



New Changes to Open Meeting Law for 2017

Effective January 1, 2017, the California State Legislature has enacted the following updates to California's Open Meeting Law, known as the Ralph M. Brown Act ("Brown Act"). Here's what you need to know:

➤ **Executive Compensation** (SB 1436/Gov. Code § 54953)

Prior to the governing board taking final action in open session on executive compensation, the board must orally report a summary of the recommended salary, salary schedule, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits.

➤ **Public Comment** (AB 1787/Gov. Code § 54954.3)

When a charter school's governing board limits the time for public comment (for example, three (3) minutes per speaker), the board must provide at least twice the allotted time to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the board as do English speakers.

Also, for meetings occurring on or after January 1, 2019, there are new requirements for posting the agenda on the charter school's website.

➤ **Agenda Posting Requirements** (AB 2257/ Gov. Code § 54954.2)

A prominent, direct link to the current board meeting agenda must be posted on the charter school's primary internet website homepage.

Additional technical requirements apply to the electronic agenda, and if the charter school uses an "integrated agenda management platform," as defined by statute.

Of course, there are a number of additional rules and best practices raised by the above issues that are not addressed here.

YMC is a leader in providing Board trainings designed to educate your board and provide effective strategies to ensure compliance and synergy in meetings. Often too, such trainings are required by your charter petition or your granting agency. Schedule a training today.

Should you have any questions about this Legal Alert, please contact Jim Young (jyoung@mycharterlaw.com) or Daniel Robertson (drobotson@mycharterlaw.com).

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