* * * Open Meeting Law * * * 1 Sec. 1. 1 V.S.A. § 310 is amended to read: 2 § 310. DEFINITIONS 3 4 As used in this subchapter: (1) "Business of the public body" means the public body's governmental functions, 5 6 including any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or 7 advisory power. (1)(2) "Deliberations" means weighing, examining, and discussing the reasons for and 8 against an act or decision, but expressly excludes the taking of evidence and the arguments of 9 10 parties. (2)(3)(A) "Meeting" means a gathering of a quorum of the members of a public body for 11 the purpose of discussing the business of the public body or for the purpose of taking action. 12 (3)(B) "Meeting" shall not mean written correspondence or an electronic communication, 13 including e-mail, telephone, or teleconferencing, between members of a public body for the 14 15 purpose of scheduling a meeting, organizing an agenda, or distributing materials to discuss at a meeting, provided that such a written correspondence or such an electronic communication that 16 17 results in written or recorded information shall be available for inspection and copying under the Public Records Act as set forth in chapter 5, subchapter 3 of this title. 18 (3)(C) "Meeting" shall not mean occasions when a quorum of a public body attends social 19 20 gatherings, conventions, conferences, training programs, press conferences, media events, or otherwise gathers as long as the public body does not discuss specific business of the public body 21 that, at the time of the exchange, the participating members expect to be business of the public 22 body at a later time. 23

| 24 | (3)(D) "Meeting" shall not mean a gathering of a quorum of a public body at a duly |
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| 25 | warned meeting of another public body as long as the attending public body does not take action |
| 26 | on its business. |
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| 28 | Sec. 2. 1 V.S.A. § 312(a) is amended to read: |
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| 30 | (3) A quorum of the members of a public body shall not, outside of an open meeting |
| 31 | authorized by this chapter unless otherwise expressly permitted, use a series of communications |
| 32 | of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss or take action on any business of the |
| 33 | public body. |