Public Comment Availability at Regional Transportation Council Meetings (HB 2840)

PUBLIC MEETING

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Overview of HB 2840

Members of the public must be allowed to make comments to a governmental body before or during the body’s consideration of an item.

A governmental body may adopt reasonable rules regarding public comments, including rules that limit the amount of time for each public comment.

If no simultaneous translation equipment is used, a member of the public using a translator must be given double the amount of time to comment.

A governmental body may not prohibit public criticism of the body.

Bill took effect on September 1, 2019.
Process for September and October RTC Meetings

Single public comment period, following the pledges, before any action items.

Developed a speaker request card, individuals must identify the agenda item on which they wish to speak (or can provide written comments).

Public comments will be taken on any agenda item.

No public comments received at the September meeting.

If comments are received, they will be documented in RTC minutes.
Next Steps

Benchmarking local governments on a number of topics

Drafting rules for the RTC to adopt, including process and time limits

Looking at additional documents, such as RTC Bylaws and Public Participation to incorporate HB 2840 requirements, if necessary

Considering room layout, personnel and technology needs to enforce time limits
Questions/Comments

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