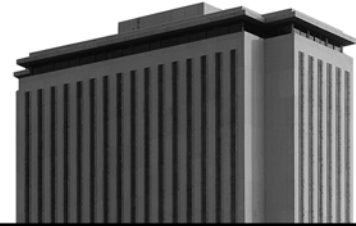




LEGISLATIVE ISSUE BRIEFS



Citizen Participation at Public Meetings

CS/HB 991 (Hukill) and **SB 2276** (Lynn) create the “Voice of the People Act.” CS/HB 991 has been amended to require cities to either adopt their own written policy for citizen participation at public meetings or follow the mandatory requirements for public participation as provided in the bill. If cities choose to follow their own public participation policies, and not follow the bill requirements on public participation, the city must hold at least one public workshop to receive input on the city’s public participation policy. Even cities that have a current written policy on public participation will be required to hold at least one public workshop to receive input on the current written policy. If a city does not develop its own written policy on public participation by October 1, 2008, the city must follow the public participation requirements established in the bill.

Status: CS/HB 991 passed the House Government Efficiency and Accountability Council and is available for House Floor action. SB 2276 is in the Senate Community Affairs Committee.

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