



# VLCT LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

SERVING AND STRENGTHENING VERMONT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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**Date** April 22, 2016  
**To** Legislative Alert Distribution List  
**From** Karen Horn, Director, Public Policy and Advocacy  
**Re** Open Meeting Law

Thanks to the efforts of many local officials, a very important amendment to pending Open Meeting Law legislation was adopted on the House floor this past Wednesday. We thank everyone who took the time to contact their representatives in support of this amendment – and [S.114](#) as a whole. This is a clear example of the impact you have as municipal officials and as constituents!

In addition to the amendments VLCT noted in last week's the [Weekly Legislative Report No. 15](#), the floor amendment provides public bodies an additional two calendar days to post minutes to a website, i.e, seven calendar days instead of five. Minutes, however, will still need to be made available for copy or inspection within five calendar days of a meeting.

We anticipate an uphill fight in the Senate to keep this provision in the bill, and perhaps the bill itself as it moves through the legislative process, since we have been assured that the Secretary of State will oppose the addition of two days to post minutes to a municipal website. **Contact the Senate Government Operations Committee and your senators and urge them to support S.114 and the House Proposal of Amendment.** Please explain to your senators and the committee *why* this amendment would be helpful to your community. Use examples from experiences in your community, for those real-life examples are always helpful and often carry the most weight.

Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee are Jeanette K. White (Chair), Anthony Pollina, Christopher Bray, Joe Benning, and Brian Collamore. You can contact your senators and committee members through the Sergeant at Arms' office (802-828-2228), or via email through the legislative website (<http://legislature.vermont.gov/people/all/2016/Senate>). Contact information for the members of the Gov Ops Committee is at <http://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2016/26>.

Please copy VLCT on any correspondence you generate in this matter.

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