A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public notice requirements under the open
2    meetings law.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
Section 1. Section 21.4, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

a. Except as provided in subsection 3, a governmental body shall give notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting including a reconvened meeting of the governmental body, and the tentative agenda of the meeting, in a manner reasonably calculated to apprise the public of that information.

Reasonable notice shall include advising the news media any person who has filed a request for notice with the governmental body and posting the notice on a bulletin board or other prominent place which is easily accessible to the public and clearly designated for that purpose at the principal office of the body holding the meeting, or if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held.

Sec. 2. Section 21.4, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

a. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph “c”, notice conforming with all of the requirements of subsection 1 shall be given at least twenty-four hours prior to the commencement of any meeting of a governmental body, excluding weekend days and paid holidays as specified in section 1C.2, unless for good cause such notice is impossible or impractical, in which case as much notice as is reasonably possible shall be given.

EXPLANATION

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation’s substance by the members of the general assembly.

This bill relates to public notice requirements under the open meetings law (Code chapter 21).

The bill provides that reasonable notice of a meeting shall include providing notice to any person, and not just the news media, if the person has filed a request for notice.

The bill also excludes weekend days and paid holidays as specified in Code section 1C.2 when determining the 24-hour time period for purposes of public notice under the open meetings law.