DIGEST

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Abramson HB No. 449

**Abstract:** Provides that the exception from the Open Meetings Law for discussions of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person does not apply to a discussion regarding the awarding of a public contract.

Present law generally requires meetings of public bodies be open to the public but also provides exceptions. One exception is a discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person which present law authorizes public bodies to hold in executive session provided notice is given to the person. Present law specifically indicates that a discussion of the appointment of a person to a public body is not covered by this exception.

Proposed law retains present law and further specifies that a discussion of the awarding of a public contract is also not covered by the exception; therefore proposed law requires such discussions regarding the award of a contract to be held in open meetings.

(Amends R.S. 42:17(A)(1))