

Policy on Committee Meeting Compliance with Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Requirements

The Citizens Redistricting Commission is committed to ensuring compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.¹ To oversee its operations and further its business, the Commission has established a committee structure that complies with all Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements.

Committees with more than two members must comply with Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements, as modified by the 14-day notice requirement for all CRC meetings except those in August of years ending in 1, which only require 3-day notice.²

Two-member subcommittees are purely advisory and thus not subject to the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act.³ Two-member subcommittees allow the commission to oversee its business and operations, plan educational panels for the commission, gather information, and develop recommendations for the full commission.

Committee members may communicate with external stakeholders to conduct research, plan meeting logistics, plan educational sessions and gather information. However, Commission members who are part of these two-member subcommittees may not communicate about redistricting matters with anyone outside of a public meeting.⁴

¹ As a state body, meetings of CRC Commissioners are subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Cal. Gov't Code Secs. 11120-11132).

² Gov't Code § 8253 (a)(1) states: The commission shall comply with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act...The commission shall provide not less than 14 days' public notice for each meeting held for the purpose of receiving public input testimony, except that meetings held in August in the year ending in the number one may be held with three days' notice."

³ Gov't Code § 11122 (c) clearly states that advisory committees are only subject to Bagley-Keene if they have three or more members. See, also, Cal. Att'y Gen's "A Handy Guide to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, p. 3, which states: which states "[i]f an advisory committee . . . has only two members, it is not covered by the Bagley-Keene Act." (https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/publications/bagleykeene2004_ada.pdf).

⁴ See the Citizens Redistricting Commission's Policy on Communications about Redistricting Matters.