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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. **653**

02/18/2013 Authored by Quam; Simon; Murphy, M.; Drazkowski and Winkler
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to open meeting law; providing that certain communications on social
1.3 media are not meetings under the law; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012,
1.4 section 13D.01, subdivision 2.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 13D.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** This chapter does not apply:

1.8 (1) to meetings of the commissioner of corrections;

1.9 (2) to a state agency, board, or commission when it is exercising quasi-judicial

1.10 functions involving disciplinary proceedings; ~~or~~

1.11 (3) to participation in social media forums by a member of a public body otherwise

1.12 subject to this chapter, whether or not a quorum of the public body is participating, when

1.13 participation is intended to augment traditional communication methods. The social

1.14 media forum must be generally open to public participation. Simultaneous or serial

1.15 participation by a quorum or more of members of a public body otherwise subject to this

1.16 chapter in a forum or section of a forum that the members know is not open to general

1.17 public participation is not exempt under this paragraph. Participation in a social media

1.18 forum shall not replace any required public meeting or hearing and no vote of any entity

1.19 otherwise subject to this section shall be taken by means of a social media forum. "Social

1.20 media" means forms of Web-based and mobile technologies for communication, such as

1.21 Web sites for social networking and microblogging, through which users participate in

1.22 online communities to share information, ideas, messages, and other content; or

1.23 (4) as otherwise expressly provided by statute.