A bill for an act

relating to legislative procedure; requiring certain conference committee communications to be open to the public; requiring budget negotiations between legislative leaders and bill and budget negotiations between the governor and legislative leaders to be open to the public; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 3.055, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 3.055, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Meetings to be open.** (a) Meetings of the legislature shall be open to the public, including sessions of the senate, sessions of the house of representatives, joint sessions of the senate and the house of representatives, and meetings of a standing committee, committee division, subcommittee, conference committee, or legislative commission, but not including a caucus of the members of any of those bodies from the same house and political party nor a delegation of legislators representing a geographic area or political subdivision. For purposes of this section, a meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the body.

(b) In addition to the openness requirements imposed on conference committees by paragraph (a), from the time a conference committee is appointed until it is disbanded, any negotiations between senate and house of representatives members of the conference committee or senate and house of representatives staff members related to the conference committee or the bill referred to the conference committee must be open to the public.

(c) A meeting between the majority leader of the senate and the speaker of the house to set budget targets or negotiate the state budget must be open to the public.

(d) A meeting with the governor to negotiate a bill pending in the senate or house of representatives or to set budget targets or negotiate the state budget must be open to the public if the meeting includes any of the following members of the legislature:

(1) the majority leader of the senate;

(2) the speaker of the house;

(3) the minority leader of either the senate or house of representatives; or

(4) the chair of a standing committee or division of the senate or house of representatives.

(e) Each house shall provide by rule for posting notices of meetings, recording proceedings, and making the recordings and votes available to the public.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This act is effective the day following final enactment.