



Bryant strikes blow for transparency with veto of local bill

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Gov. Phil Bryant is proving to be quite the champion of transparency in government. This week he vetoed a local bill simply because it tried to circumvent Mississippi's longstanding public notice requirements. In doing so, the governor sent a bold message that will not be lost on our legislators.

Senate Bill 2269 seemed harmless enough. It restructured the commission overseeing the coliseum on the Gulf Coast. Both chambers of our state Legislature passed it unanimously. But in conference committee, a few legislators sneakily altered the bill so that public notices involving the new commission would be posted to an unspecified government website rather than the local newspaper. With millions of websites in the world, that is akin to asking a citizens to find a needle in a haystack.

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