



Speaker Jill Krowinski, *Chair ex officio*
Rep. Lori Houghton, *Vice Chair*
Rep. Karen Dolan, *ex officio*
Rep. John L. Bartholomew
Rep. Patricia McCoy, *ex officio*
Rep. Mark Higley, *ex officio*
Rep. Martha "Marty" Feltus

STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.
Speaker's Office · See [agenda](#) and [livestream](#)

Members present: Speaker Jill Krowinski, *Chair*
Rep. Lori Houghton, *Vice Chair*
Rep. Karen Dolan
Rep. John L. Bartholomew
Rep. Patricia McCoy
Rep. Mark Higley
Rep. Martha "Marty" Feltus

Others present: Theresa Utton-Jerman, House Journal Clerk [*remote*]
BetsyAnn Wrask, Clerk of the House

Application of remote House committee voting in accordance with House Rule 90b. The Clerk reviewed with the Committee an issue that has arisen for members with a disability who are on-site for a House committee meeting but unable to access their specific committee meeting room due to the physical condition of the meeting site, such as an inoperable elevator in the State House.

The House has already adopted [2026, H.R.11](#), which provides three days of remote voting authority in House committees through calendar year 2026; and [House Rule 90b](#) provides that the House shall apply the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in regulating its procedure. Accordingly, Rep. Higley made the following motion, which was seconded by Rep. Feltus and agreed to unanimously by the Committee (7-0-0):

I move that in accordance with House Rule 90b — which applies the requirements of the ADA to the House's regulation of its procedure — a House committee member with a disability who is physically present at the site of a House committee meeting, but who cannot access the House committee meeting room due to the physical condition of the site, may vote remotely from the site and count toward a committee quorum, without using one of the member's remote voting days provided by 2026, House Resolution 11, for cases in which the House committee meeting cannot be moved to an accessible onsite location.

Draft J.R.H. regarding remote joint committee voting. Related to the first meeting topic, the Clerk reviewed with the Committee that joint committee remote voting authority is not yet established for calendar year 2026—a joint resolution is required to be adopted by both chambers to provide this remote voting authority. In addition, there is no current provision in rule or resolution that addresses the application of the ADA to joint-chamber authority.

Accordingly, similar to [2025, J.R.H.5](#) (joint committee voting in calendar year 2025), the Clerk reviewed with the Committee [5/26/26 J.R.H. Draft 1.2](#), which would again provide three remote voting days to members of joint committees through calendar year 2026, but which also contains a *Resolved* clause to provide the same on-site remote voting authority of joint committee members with a disability who cannot access their specific joint committee meeting room, as would be provided to House committee members with a disability, as agreed to by the Committee in the first meeting topic.

On motion of Rep. Houghton, the Committee unanimously approved the introduction of J.R.H. Draft 1.2 (7-0-0).¹

The Speaker adjourned the Committee at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

BetsyAnn Wrask

BetsyAnn Wrask
Clerk of the House

¹ The resolution was introduced as [2026, J.R.H.12](#).