

No. R-115. Joint resolution relating to amending temporary Joint Rule 22A and to public access to the State House or other legislative meeting spaces.

(J.R.S.24)

By Senator Balint,

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That Temporary Joint Rule 22A is amended to read as follows:

Rule 22A Emergency Rule Regarding Joint Committee Meetings

(a) The Joint Rules Committee is vested with the authority to permit any joint committees of the Vermont Legislature (including itself and Conference Committees) to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate. If necessary, the Joint Rules Committee may make this authorization remotely in conformity with this Rule.

(b) The authority of the Joint Rules Committee under this Rule 22A ~~terminates upon the expiration of the Executive's Declared Emergency~~ shall only be in effect through the 30 days following the date on which the Governor rescinds all remaining capacity restrictions at gatherings and events and mask and physical distancing requirements issued under the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 as determined by the Joint Rules Committee.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this rule, if the Governor thereafter reissues capacity restrictions at gatherings and events or requires masks and physical distancing in response to COVID-19, the Joint Rules Committee is again authorized to meet remotely and to permit any joint committees of the Legislature to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate., and be it further

Resolved: If the Joint Rules Committee determines that there should be conditions on the public entering the State House or other legislative meeting spaces, or limitations on access to legislative meeting spaces, due to air quality or construction, the inability to comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, or other similar reasons, the Joint Rules Committee is authorized to issue orders to the Sgt at Arms that condition or limit that public access.