

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution

By the Committee on Rules,

S.R. 12. Senate resolution relating to extending concurrently conducted electronic session and committee meetings.

Whereas, it is critical to take steps to control outbreaks of COVID-19 to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters and limit the spread of infection in our community;

Whereas, Permanent Senate Rule 9A permits the Rules Committee to authorize sessions of the Senate during a declared emergency be concurrently conducted electronically; and

Whereas, Permanent Senate Rule 32A permits the Rules Committee to authorize committee meetings during a declared emergency be concurrently conducted electronically; and

Whereas, the Governor of the State of Vermont issued a Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 which expired at midnight on June 15, 2021;

Whereas, S.R.9 adopted by the Senate on April 14, 2021 permitted the Senate to continue Senate Sessions pursuant to Permanent Senate Rule 9A and Committee meetings pursuant to Permanent Senate Rule 32A until January 7, 2022;

Whereas, given continuing outbreaks of COVID-19, and in particular the OMICRON variant, it may be necessary for sessions of the Senate and committees of the Senate to continue with concurrently conducted electronic sessions and committee meetings; *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

Notwithstanding the language in Permanent Senate Rules 9A and 32A regarding their applicability during Declarations of Emergency, the provisions of Permanent Senate Rules 9A and 32A regarding Senate sessions and committee meetings shall remain in effect through February 25, 2022.