

House resolution further extending the House’s declaration of a state of emergency and authorizing the Committee on Rules to adopt remote or hybrid procedures thereafter

Offered by: **[TBD]**

Whereas, on the first day of the 2021–22 biennium, the House adopted [H.R. 1](#) (declaring a state of emergency), which declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the House’s rules and procedures through March 9, 2021, and

Whereas, temporary [House Rules 9a and 29a](#)—which the House also adopted on the first day of the biennium via [H.R. 2](#) (authorizing remote debate and voting in the House and House committees)—allow the House and its committees to vote remotely and engage in debate remotely while the House’s declaration of a state of emergency is in effect, and

Whereas, the House extended its declaration of a state of emergency through May 15, 2021 via [H.R. 8](#) (extending the House’s declaration of a state of emergency), and

Whereas, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to require that the House and its committees be authorized to participate remotely in order to permit the House to conduct its business in the safest manner possible to prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout Vermont communities, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the House of Representatives extends its declaration of a state of emergency through May 22, 2021 and through any 2021 veto session, and be it further

Resolved: After May 22, 2021 and any 2021 veto session, if COVID-19 continues to necessitate it, the House Committee on Rules may adopt procedures to allow the House of Representatives and committees of the House of Representatives to meet, debate, and vote remotely or in a remote/in-person hybrid manner. The Committee may meet remotely or in a hybrid manner to exercise this authority. This Committee authority includes the authority to adopt procedures for reconvening the House for the 2022 adjourned session and shall remain in effect through January 7, 2022.