

### **Overview of Current Legislative Remote Meeting Authority**

This document provides an overview of current remote meeting authority within the General Assembly.

#### **I. Joint Committees**

Pursuant to [J.R.S. 2](#), the General Assembly adopted emergency temporary Joint Rule 22A, which authorizes *the Joint Rules Committee* to permit joint committees of the General Assembly (including itself and conference committees) to meet and vote electronically as the Committee determines appropriate.

- Pursuant to this authority, at its 2/11/21 meeting, the Committee authorized all joint committees to meet and vote electronically.
- By the current terms of temporary Joint Rule 22A, the Committee's authority under this temporary rule terminates upon the expiration of the Governor's COVID-19 state of emergency.
- [J.R.S. 24 As Adopted by Senate](#) would amend temporary Joint Rule 22A to provide that the Committee's authority terminates *upon the later of*:
  - 1) the expiration of the Governor's COVID-19 state of emergency; *or*
  - 2) January 7, 2022 (the first Friday of the 2022 session).

#### **II. Senate Sessions and Senate Committees**

Pursuant to [S.R. 2](#), the Senate adopted [Senate Rules 9A and 32A](#), which provide that when the Governor declares any state of emergency, *the Senate Rules Committee* is authorized to permit Senate sessions and Senate committees to meet remotely. The Committee's authority terminates upon the expiration of the Governor's state of emergency.

- Thereafter, the Senate adopted [S.R. 9](#), which notwithstanding the current provisions of Senate Rules 9A and 32A so that those rules remain in effect *until the later of*:
  - 1) The expiration of the Governor's COVID-19 state of emergency; *or*
  - 2) January 7, 2022.

### III. House Sessions and House Committees

Pursuant to [H.R. 2](#), the House adopted [House Rules 9a and 29a](#), which provide that *the House shall allow* remote participation in House sessions and that *standing committees are permitted* to vote remotely while the House's declaration of a state of emergency is in effect (or until the convening of the 2023 biennium, whichever comes first).

- Via [H.R. 1](#), the House's initial declaration of a state of emergency was effective through March 9, 2021.
- Via [H.R. 8](#), the House extended its declaration of a state of emergency through May 15, 2021.