

2020 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY SENATOR HEWITT

SENATE. Amends Senate rules to permit members to vote via video or other electronic means during a declared emergency.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To adopt Senate Rule 15.4 of the Rules of Order of the Senate, relative to voting during a  
3 declared emergency; to allow members to be counted as present in the chamber; to  
4 allow members to vote via video conferencing or other electronic means.

5 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana adopts Senate  
6 Rule 15.4 of the Rules of Order of the Senate to read as follows:

7 **Rule 15.4. Declared emergencies; quorum; voting**

8 **A. During a gubernatorially declared state of emergency or a**  
9 **gubernatorially declared state of public health emergency, and as necessary to**  
10 **provide for the continuity of government and legislative operations during such**  
11 **an emergency, a member shall be counted for quorum purposes for the Senate**  
12 **to transact business pursuant to Senate Rule 5.4 and for quorum purposes for**  
13 **a committee to transact business pursuant to Senate Rule 13.85 if the member**  
14 **participates remotely by telephone, teleconference, or other electronic means.**

15 **B. Notwithstanding Senate Rule 12.3, during a gubernatorially declared**  
16 **state of emergency or a gubernatorially declared state of public health**  
17 **emergency, and as necessary to provide for the continuity of government and**

1        **legislative operations during such an emergency, a member shall be permitted**  
2        **to vote if the member participates remotely by telephone, teleconference, or**  
3        **other electronic means. The member shall certify each vote in writing and file**  
4        **the certification with the secretary.**

5                **C. The authority provided in this Rule during a gubernatorially**  
6        **declared emergency shall be invoked only at the discretion of the president and**  
7        **shall automatically expire upon the termination of the declared state of**  
8        **emergency.**

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Matt DeVille.

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SR 45 Original                                DIGEST                                Hewitt  
    2020 Regular Session

Proposed rule allows for members to be counted as present in the chamber for quorum purposes and vote via video or other electronic means during a declared emergency.

(Adds Senate Rule 15.4)