



SENATE RESOLUTION 20B-001

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CONCERNING A CHANGE TO THE RULES OF THE SENATE TO AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS TO ALLOW REMOTE TESTIMONY BY THE PUBLIC DURING THE PROCEEDINGS OF SENATE COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE WHILE THERE IS A DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH DISASTER EMERGENCY.

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

That in the Rules of the Senate, Rule No. 44, **add** (f) as follows:

44. Regulations for the Senate During a Public Health Disaster Emergency

- (f) (1) PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-2-404 (2), C.R.S., THIS RULE AUTHORIZES THE PRESIDENT TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS TO ENABLE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AS WELL AS OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TESTIFY REMOTELY IN LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS OF SENATE COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE. THE PRESIDENT SHALL ENSURE THAT REGULATIONS PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (f) ARE DISTRIBUTED TO EACH MEMBER OF THE SENATE AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND POSTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE SENATE.

- (2) THE PRESIDENT, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MAJORITY LEADER AND THE MINORITY LEADER, MAY INVOKE THE REGULATIONS FOR REMOTE TESTIMONY ONLY IF THE CONDITIONS CONCERNING A DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH DISASTER EMERGENCY, AS DESCRIBED IN JOINT RULE 44 OF THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ARE MET AND THE PRESIDENT FINDS THAT HOLDING IN-PERSON LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS OF SENATE COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE POSES AN INCREASED HEALTH RISK TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OR TO THE PUBLIC. WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER INVOKING THE REGULATIONS FOR REMOTE TESTIMONY, THE PRESIDENT SHALL ENSURE THAT WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE INVOCATION IS PROVIDED TO EACH MEMBER OF THE SENATE AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND POSTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE SENATE. THE REGULATIONS FOR REMOTE TESTIMONY MAY REMAIN IN EFFECT ONLY FOR SO LONG AS THE DECLARED STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH DISASTER EMERGENCY CONTINUES.
- (3) THE REGULATIONS THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY PROMULGATE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (f)(1) OF THIS RULE MUST ADDRESS THE TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY OR SOFTWARE THAT A PERSON MUST USE TO TESTIFY REMOTELY IN A LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDING OF A COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE OF THE SENATE AND MAY ADDRESS SUCH ADDITIONAL MATTERS AS THE PRESIDENT DETERMINES ARE NECESSARY. HOWEVER, NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION (f) OR IN ANY REGULATIONS PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (f)(1) OF THIS RULE LIMITS OR OTHERWISE MODIFIES THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIR OF A COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE OF THE SENATE TO LIMIT TESTIMONY.


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PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE


Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE