

No. R-138. Joint resolution amending the application of temporary Joint Rule 22A.

(J.R.H.12)

Offered by: Representatives Long of Newfane and McCoy of Poultney

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That Temporary Joint Rule 22A is amended to read as follows:

Rule 22A. ~~Emergency~~ Temporary Rule Regarding Joint Committee Meetings

(a) ~~The Joint Rules Committee is vested with the authority to permit any joint committees of the Vermont Legislature (including itself and Conference Committees) to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate. If necessary, the Joint Rules Committee may make this authorization remotely in conformity with this Rule~~ A member of a joint committee may debate and vote remotely in that committee if the member confirms with the committee's chair or co-chairs, as applicable, that the member must be absent from committee due to symptomatic illness or direct COVID-19-related circumstances.

(b) ~~The authority of the Joint Rules Committee under this Rule 22A terminates on January 18, 2022~~ is authorized to meet remotely as necessary to address COVID-19-related matters that may impact the operation of the General Assembly and joint committees.

(c) The remote authority set forth in this rule shall remain in effect through Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) (c) of this rule, if the Governor thereafter reissues capacity restrictions at gatherings and events or requires masks and physical distancing in response to COVID-19, the Joint Rules Committee is again authorized to meet remotely and to permit any joint committees of the Legislature to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate.