

BY: Senator STEWART-COUSINS

ADOPTING special temporary procedures during a declared state of national state of emergency; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

WHEREAS, The current declared state of national emergency relating to the coronavirus disease require the Senate, in the exercise of its constitutional power and prerogative, to implement special temporary procedures permitting the consideration of legislation in an expedited fashion to meet the urgent needs of the people of the state of New York while confronting rapidly changing circumstances and public health concerns and directives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That notwithstanding paragraph a of section one of Rule IX of the Senate Rules, the Temporary President may designate a method to allow for Senators to be in attendance and participate in any proceeding of the Senate by remote means, including but not limited to teleconference or video conference, during a declared period of a state of emergency; and be it further

RESOLVED, That notwithstanding paragraph a of section one of Rule IX of the Senate Rules, a Senator may vote on a bill on the controversial calendar if such Senator is in attendance by the remote means designated by the Temporary President; and be it further

RESOLVED, That notwithstanding section two of Rule III of the Senate Rules and paragraphs a, b, c, d, e and f of section two, section six, and section seven of Rule IX of the Senate Rules and any other Rule involving the presence or absence of a Senator, a Senator in attendance using the remote means designated by the Temporary President shall be deemed present for the purposes of establishing a quorum and for any other purpose; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a Senator in attendance using the remote means designated by the Temporary President shall be treated as if he or she were upon the floor of the Senate Chamber for the purposes of paragraph g of section two of Rule IX of the Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That no technical failure on the part of an individual Senator or group of Senators that breaks their remote connection to the proceedings shall invalidate any action taken by a majority of the Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, This resolution shall expire and be deemed repealed upon the Temporary President's declaration that a state of emergency no longer exists, and shall be in effect only for the duration of the remainder of the 2019-2020 Legislative Session.