

STATE OF NEW YORK

7623--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

December 22, 2021

Introduced by Sens. GAUGHRAN, HOYLMAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules -- recommitted to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend chapter 417 of the laws of 2021 relating to authorizing political subdivisions to permit any public body to hold meetings remotely and without in-person access during the COVID-19 state disaster emergency, in relation to public bodies holding meetings remotely and to the effectiveness thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Sections 1 and 2 of part E of chapter 417 of the laws of 2021 relating to authorizing political subdivisions to permit any public body to hold meetings remotely and without in-person access during the COVID-19 state disaster emergency, are amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any [~~state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission~~] public body, as [~~well as any local public body~~] defined pursuant to section one hundred two of the public officers law, [~~or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity,~~] shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. [~~"Local public body" shall mean any entity for which a quorum is required in order to conduct public busi-~~]

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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~~ness and which consists of two or more members, performing a governmental function for an entity limited in the execution of its official functions to a portion only of the state, or a political subdivision of the state, or for an agency or department thereof.]~~

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed [~~January 15, 2022~~] upon the expiration or termination of the state disaster emergency declared pursuant to executive order 11 of 2021 or any extension or modification thereof; provided that the commissioner of health shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission upon the occurrence of the expiration or termination of such executive order in order that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective database of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-b of the public officers law.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.