STATE OF NEW YORK

8134

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

June 11, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. NIOU -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, in relation to videoconferencing meetings under the open meetings law

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 102 of the public officers law, as amended by chapter 289 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

1. "Meeting" means the official convening of a public body for the purpose of conducting public business, including the use of videoconferencing for attendance and participation by the members of the public body. **Participation by videoconferencing shall constitute presence in person and counted for quorum purposes.**

§ 2. Subdivision (c) of section 103 of the public officers law, as added by chapter 289 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A public body that uses videoconferencing to conduct its meetings shall provide an opportunity for the public to attend, listen and observe at any **public** site at which a member participates. **If no member is participating at a public site, such public body shall provide a site for the public to attend, listen and observe. Such site may include the internet address of the website streaming such meeting if such meeting is occurring only through the internet. Each member of the public body shall ensure they are present for the duration of such videoconference.**

§ 3. Subdivision 1 of section 106 of the public officers law, as added by chapter 511 of the laws of 1976 and as renumbered by chapter 652 of the laws of 1983, is amended to read as follows:

1. Minutes shall be taken at all open meetings of a public body which shall consist of a record or summary of all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matter formally voted upon and the vote thereon. **Such minutes may be taken and made available to the public in an electronic format including by audio recording which shall be transcribed no later than one week after such meeting.**

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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