

1.1 A Senate resolution
1.2 amending the Temporary Rules of the Senate.
1.3 Temporary Senate Rule No. 12.1 is amended to read:
1.4 12.1 (a) All meetings of the Senate, its committees, and subcommittees are open to the public.
1.5 A meeting of a caucus of the members of any of those bodies from the same political party need
1.6 not be open to the public. A caucus of the Hennepin county, Ramsey county, or St. Louis county
1.7 delegation is open to the public. For purposes of this rule, a meeting occurs when a quorum is
1.8 present and action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the body.
1.9 (b) Senate committee and subcommittee meetings may be held using alternative means that
1.10 permit remote participation and voting for members with the approval of the respective caucus
1.11 leader, subject to this rule. A member voting from a remote location under this rule must inform
1.12 the Chair of the city and state from which the member is voting at the time of the remote voting.
1.13 Remote meetings under this rule may also be held: (1) during any peacetime emergency declared
1.14 by the Governor that is related to the infectious disease known as COVID-19; (2) during a special
1.15 session; or (3) by the Committee on Rules and Administration at any time. Compliance with this
1.16 rule meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 3.055. The alternative means used to
1.17 conduct a hearing under this rule must ensure that all members of the committee participating in
1.18 the hearing can see and hear one another, and that all witnesses are also visible and audible to the
1.19 members participating during the witness's testimony, with the ability for witnesses to see and hear
1.20 the members participating during the witness's testimony. A member must be visible when speaking
1.21 and voting. A witness must be visible when providing testimony or answering questions. If a member
1.22 or witness participating in a hearing held under this rule verbally affirms during the course of the
1.23 hearing that the member's Internet connection prevents the member from establishing a visual
1.24 connection to the hearing, the member may participate using only an audio connection to the hearing.
1.25 Any meeting using alternative means must be contemporaneously available electronically to the

- 2.1 public. The notice provided for the hearing must specify how members of the public may access
- 2.2 and monitor the meeting. All of the requirements of Senate Rule 12 apply to hearings held under
- 2.3 this paragraph unless otherwise excepted.