

COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Executive Committee of the Legislative Council

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March 31, 2026

Policy of the Executive Committee Pursuant to Section 2-3-303 (2)(h)(I)(A), C.R.S.

Regulations for Electronic Participation in Joint Committee Meetings

Section 1 – General Provisions for Electronic Participation.

1.1 - Limited Remote Participation by Members Permitted.

Section 2-3-303 (2)(h)(I)(A), C.R.S., allows the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council to establish policies regarding electronic participation in committee meetings occurring during the legislative interim or in other meetings of committees comprised of members from both chambers that are convened at any time of the year. This policy is effective March 31, 2026, and rescinds the prior Executive Committee policy on electronic participation in committee meetings occurring during the legislative interim. While these regulations are in effect, members of the General Assembly may participate electronically in meetings of joint committees in accordance with the procedures specified in these regulations. A joint committee meeting with electronically participating members will be conducted using the technology platform used by the General Assembly for electronic participation in legislative proceedings.

1.2 - Definitions.

As used in these regulations:

“Joint committee” means a committee that is composed of members from both chambers of the General Assembly and includes a joint statutory committee, a joint interim committee, a joint select

committee, or a joint committee appointed pursuant to Rule 36 (d) of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives.

"Joint interim committee" means a committee formed pursuant to section 2-3-303.3, C.R.S.

"Joint select committee" means a committee formed pursuant to Rule 41 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives.

"Joint statutory committee" includes a committee, subcommittee, ad hoc committee, advisory committee, commission, or task force created in or pursuant to statute and staffed by nonpartisan legislative staff. For a list of these committees, contact lcs.ga@coleg.gov.

1.3 - Applicability of Regulations - Exclusions.

These regulations apply to any meeting of a joint committee that is composed of members from both chambers of the General Assembly, referred to in these regulations as a "joint committee."

This policy does not govern, and the regulations of the chamber of the members of the following committees apply to, electronic participation in:

- A meeting of a House or Senate committee of reference;
- A joint meeting of one or more House and Senate committees of reference or of any other committees of the House and the Senate; or
- A meeting of the House or Senate Services Committee, the House or Senate Workplace Harassment Committee, a House or Senate ethics committee, or any other committee formed by and composed only of members from one chamber.

This policy does not apply to a meeting of a conference committee.

Section 2 – Requirements and Procedures.

2.1 - Joint Committee Meetings during a Legislative Session.

If a joint committee is meeting during a legislative session, members of the committee are expected to participate in person and may participate electronically in the meeting only if approved by the chair of the joint committee.

2.1.1 - Electronic participation - when permitted.

The chair of a joint committee may approve a request to participate electronically in a meeting of the joint committee that is occurring during a legislative session if any of the following conditions are met:

- The member has a likely or confirmed case of a highly communicable disease;

- Limiting the number of people congregating in person in the room where the joint committee will meet will assist in protecting the health of members, staff, and the public;
- Because of birth, adoption, or placement through foster care, the member is caring for a new child;
- The member is experiencing an extended health condition that significantly limits the member's ability to participate in person;
- The member is the primary caregiver for a family member who is experiencing an extended serious health condition; or
- The member is attending a funeral or memorial service or is in a period of bereavement for the death of an immediate family member.

The chair of a joint committee may, for good cause, approve a request to participate electronically in a joint committee meeting during a legislative session for any condition or circumstance not identified in these regulations.

A member who has been granted permission to participate electronically in floor proceedings for a legislative day may participate electronically in a meeting of a joint committee on the same day. The member shall notify the joint committee chair, who shall provide notice to the committee staff and the Legislative Council Information Technology staff.

2.1.2 - Request process for electronic participation.

A member of a joint committee seeking to participate electronically in a meeting of the joint committee occurring during a legislative session must request permission from the joint committee chair at least one day in advance of when the member wishes to begin participating electronically, when possible, or as far in advance of the meeting as possible, unless an unexpected health emergency or similar incident arises. When making the request, the member must specify the reason for the request and the anticipated duration of the electronic participation. The joint committee chair shall approve or deny the request in a timely manner and provide notice of the decision to the requesting member, the Speaker, the President, the Majority and Minority Leaders of both chambers, the committee staff, and the Legislative Council Information Technology staff. If a request is approved, the joint committee chair may specify the duration that the requesting member may participate electronically.

2.2 - Joint Committee Meetings during the Interim.

Generally, a member of a joint committee that is meeting during the legislative interim may participate electronically in the meeting, subject to the limitations specified in subsection 2.2.1 of this section and if the member provides notice as required in subsection 2.2.2 of this section.

2.2.1 - In-person participation required - exception.

If a joint committee meeting occurring during the legislative interim includes in-person public testimony, the joint committee chair, vice-chair, or other designated member of the joint committee must also participate in person. For a joint committee meeting occurring during the interim that does not include in-person public testimony, the meeting may be held entirely electronically, unless a member of the joint committee wishes to participate in person.

2.2.2 - Advance notice required.

Unless an unexpected health emergency or similar incident arises, and to the extent possible, a member must provide notice of intent to participate electronically in a joint committee meeting to the joint committee's chair, the joint committee's designated staff person, and the Legislative Council Information Technology staff.

2.3 – Notice to Legislative Council Information Technology staff.

To notify the Legislative Council Information Technology staff that a member will be participating electronically in a meeting of a joint committee, the member or joint committee chair, as applicable, must send an email to ithelp.ga@coleg.gov at least one day in advance of when the member will begin participating electronically or as far in advance of the meeting as possible.

2.4 – Form for Request and Notice.

A joint committee chair may require a member requesting to participate electronically in a meeting during the legislative session pursuant to section 2.1 of these regulations, or providing notice of electronic participation in a meeting during the interim pursuant to section 2.2 of these regulations, to use a form to submit the request and provide the notice required by subsection 2.1.2 or subsection 2.2.2, as applicable.

Section 3 - Verifying Member Identity and Authenticating Member's Actions.

The identity of each member of a joint committee participating in a meeting electronically will be verified through multi factor authentication. This process will be accomplished as follows:

1. The member participating electronically logs into the applicable technology platform using a unique password. This process will serve as the initial verification of the member's identity.
2. The applicable technology platform's video capabilities will serve as a second method to verify the member's identity. A member who is participating electronically should turn on the conferencing software's video capabilities while they are participating electronically; however, if technical difficulties or insufficient internet bandwidth make it impossible for the electronically participating member's video to be shown, the prior method of authentication is sufficient to authenticate the member's identity and actions and the member may still participate electronically.

Section 4 - Committee Procedures.

4.1 - Members Participating Electronically.

A member of a joint committee meeting who is participating electronically in a meeting for which remote participation is permitted pursuant to these regulations may:

- Be marked as "present" for purposes of attendance and to establish a quorum for the joint committee;
- Vote on matters before the joint committee;
- Make motions;
- Speak to matters before the joint committee, if recognized by the joint committee chair; and
- Observe committee meetings through the applicable remote participation technology platform.

4.2 - Ascertaining the Presence of a Quorum.

The quorum for a joint committee meeting will be ascertained by a verbal roll call at the beginning of the meeting, and attendance is recorded by the committee staff. A member of the joint committee who is participating electronically and is able to communicate using the video conferencing software is considered present for purposes of attendance, determining a quorum, and voting.

4.3 - Camera and Microphone Use.

Members are to keep their cameras on while participating electronically via the applicable remote participation technology platform but are permitted to leave the view of their camera from time to time. Members must turn on their cameras when voting and, when the chair conducts a roll call vote, shall state the member's vote by speaking into the audio through the remote participation technology platform. In unforeseen circumstances, such as when the remote participation technology platform is no longer available or the member participating remotely is otherwise unavailable when the joint committee is voting, the chair may indicate that the member is excused.

Members should mute the microphones on their electronic devices connected to the applicable remote participation technology platform, except when voting and during roll call.

4.4 - Compensation to Legislators Participating Electronically.

Members participating electronically in a joint committee meeting may be paid per diem in accordance with section 2-2-307 (3) or 2-2-317, C.R.S., whichever is applicable, but may not be paid travel expenses.

Section 5 - General Technology Procedures.

5.1 - Remote locations and technology.

Members who cannot participate electronically due to insufficient technological capabilities may still participate in-person, if time allows, or should contact the joint committee chair to be excused from the joint committee meeting. The appointing authority for the member who cannot participate electronically may designate another member as a replacement prior to the meeting.

5.2 - Technical capabilities.

Members who have concerns about their ability to participate electronically due to their internet network or technology issues should contact Legislative Council Information Technology staff to see if their issues can be resolved.

5.3 - Technology issues.

Staff will make every effort to connect members participating electronically. However, if a technological connection is deemed to not be possible, the joint committee meeting may proceed without that member's participation, and the joint committee chair may mark the member as "excused" for roll call and voting.

5.4 - Best practices.

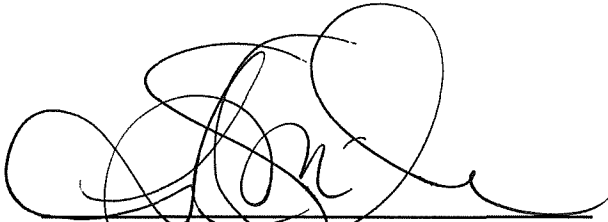
To the extent possible, members participating electronically should participate from a fixed location that appears professional on camera. Joining the meeting a few minutes early will allow for a proper connection test and troubleshooting if needed.

5.5 - Chat and Q&A functions of video software.

The applicable remote participation technology platform's Q&A function will be disabled during the committee meeting. The chat feature may be used to distribute materials or for technical questions. Members and staff using the chat feature should be aware that they may be creating a public record under the Colorado Open Records Act.

5.6 - Video and audio of committee meetings.

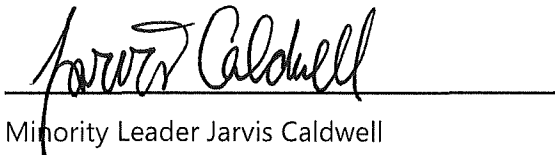
Live and archived audio of legislative committees will be available on the General Assembly's website.



Speaker Julie McCluskie, Chair



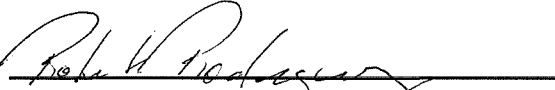
Majority Leader Monica Duran



Minority Leader Jarvis Caldwell



President James Coleman, Vice Chair



Majority Leader Robert Rodriguez



Minority Leader Cleave Simpson