

Special Rules of the Senate during an Emergency Proclamation

Senate Rules to invoke when the Legislature is meeting during a declared Emergency, should there be a need to allow members to participate in the legislative process while observing safety protocols that require social distancing, or remote participation through electronic means.

Designated alternate location: a location that has been determined by Senate leadership to provide a secure means of members participating in the legislative process in real time, whether floor sessions or committees. Such location shall safeguard the integrity of the legislative process and maintain the deliberative character of the Senate proceedings, provide for secure voting, and ensure a member's ability to speak on measures, and provides a means for public observation of legislative proceedings.

Remote participation: simultaneous, interactive participation in the legislative process by members not physically present at the location of the meeting. Participation shall occur through secure technological means that safeguard the integrity of the legislative process and maintain the deliberative character of the Senate proceedings.

In the event the President Pro Tempore in conjunction with (Senate leadership? or the full Senate?) determines that convening the legislature in person, or any part thereof, is dangerous, unwise, or impractical, due to a public health emergency, epidemic, natural or human caused disaster, enemy attack, or other public catastrophe the following rules, by majority vote or adoption of a Senate resolution, may be invoked:

All Senate rules in conflict with these Special Rules shall be suspended for the duration of the term stated in the adopted Resolution. Special rules may be extended through adoption of another Resolution. As far as practicable, all other Senate rules shall remain operative.

1. A quorum of members for the purpose of convening the Senate or any part thereof, from day to day shall be inclusive of those members who are present in the chamber, recorded present at a designated alternate location, and ~~or~~ through remote participation while logged into their state laptop on their state authorized account whose presence has been authenticated by the Secretary of the Senate. **Authentication of attendance as part of the attest at the end of each daily journal. SR 1(C), 2(A), 2(B), 43(A), 45(A), 45(B)**
2. Remote participation shall include members being permitted to vote remotely, debate, state a motion, second a motion and address the Senate using the secure method provided to them by legislative services. **SR 23, 25, 27(A), 41(A)**
3. Legislative floor sessions and committee meetings may be held at a designated alternate location within the seat of government to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the legislators, staff and public. **SR 1(C)**
4. A member shall vote on all measures during floor sessions while either:
 - present in their seat in the chamber, or
 - in their seat at a designated alternate location, or
 - through remote participation while logged onto their state laptop on their state authorized voting account.
 - Or through such other means as adopted by the Senate

All remote participation votes shall be authenticated by the Secretary of the Senate prior to those votes being included in a final vote tally. **Add authentication to the attest of each daily**

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journal where votes are taken SR 39(A), 39(D) 40 (A) (*How do we handle a Division of the Senate?) (Call of the Senate?)

5. All floor votes taken during the implementation of this rule where members are participating remotely shall be roll call votes. **SR 39(A), 39(D)**
6. The Senate gallery may be closed to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the legislators, staff and public during legislative sessions at the discretion of the President Pro Tempore. Upon closure of the public gallery, there shall be alternate methods of viewing floor proceedings for the press and general public. **SR 5**
7. Broadcasting and recording of the Senate floor sessions by the authorized designee shall continue, through means available to the legislature at the time of the invocation of this rule and in compliance with Article 3, Sec 12 of the Idaho Constitution. If the public gallery is closed and the ability to broadcast fails, the Senate shall halt its proceedings, by recessing or adjourning, until such time as the broadcast has been restored.
8. Committee meetings may include remote participation and participation from a designated alternate location if each member of the committee is able to:
 - communicate in real time with each other through audio, and/or video means, and,
 - meeting materials can be presented to all committee members, and
 - there is a means to provide the public with an opportunity to provide testimony to the committee., and
 - the public is able to observe all proceedings of the committee, except during executive session as authorized by Senate Rules.

In the event there is a technical failure that does not allow members to communicate in real time, and the public to observe the proceedings, the meeting shall halt – either through recess or adjournment until all members present are able to resume communication and the public is able to observe. **SR 19(C), 20(A), 20(C)**

9. A member of a committee may vote on any measure before the committee while:
 - present in the committee room, or
 - from a designated alternate location or
 - through remote participation while logged into their state laptop on their state authorized account; or
 - through such other methods as approved by the Senate of Committee.

All roll call votes where there is remote participation shall be authenticated by the Secretary of the Senate before being included in the final minutes. ****Add authentication to the end of each daily minutes where votes are taken**

10. The President while presiding, and under the direction of the President Pro Tempore may limit the number of members, staff, press and general public on the Senate floor and galleries. The President Pro Tempore may limit the number of members, staff, press and general public on the Senate floor, in the office spaces, chamber, galleries and committee rooms to protect the health, safety and welfare of all persons. **SR 5, 46(A), 46(H)**

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11. During a public health emergency, legislators, staff, the press, and the general public shall observe health and safety protocols while on the House floor, in the chamber and galleries, office spaces, committee rooms, adjoining and connecting hallways and passages. **

**need to decide whose guidelines – if this is added to this rule.

12. All special rules implemented in the Senate, shall also govern all proceedings in the Committee of the Whole. **SR 22(A), 22(B)**