Legislative Council
Rep. Todd Huston, Chair
Sen. Rodric Bray, Vice-Chair

Sen. Jean Breaux	Rep. Brian Bosma
Sen. Ed Charbonneau	Rep. Timothy Brown
Sen. Susan Glick	Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon
Sen. Tim Lanane	Rep. Phil GiaQuinta
Sen. James Merritt	Rep. Matt Lehman
Sen. Mark Messmer	Rep. Rep. Cherrish Pryor
Sen. Karen Tallian	Rep. Gregory Steuerwald

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RESOLUTION 20-01
(May 13, 2020)

A RESOLUTION to ratify the conduct of the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council as a virtual, electronic meeting:

Whereas, the Governor, pursuant to IC 10-14-3-12,has declared by Executive Order a public health emergency for the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak, which is in effect through June 4, 2020 (Executive Order20-02, as renewed by Executive Order 20-17 and Executive Order 20-25);

Whereas, the Governor issued a companion Executive Order 20-26 that is effective through May 23, 2020, and contains, among other provisions, provisions directing entities to take proactive measures to ensure social distancing of at least six (6) feet between individuals;

Whereas Executive Order 20-26 continues the effectiveness of Executive Order 20-09 containing restrictions on public access to state government buildings, exemptions from the open door law, and other provisions concerning continuity of government through May 23, 2020, and provides that beginning May 18, 2020, state executive branch agencies, departments and offices that have not previously been open to the public will begin to do so and state agency employees will begin returning from remote work locations in phases;

Whereas, meetings of the Legislative Council are essential to the operation of government and the Legislative Council is scheduled to meet on May 13, 2020, to assign important study topics to interim study committees, set policies for interim study committees, and conduct other legislative business;

Whereas, the State House does not have rooms open to the public that are large enough and sufficiently equipped to permit all sixteen (16) members of the Legislative Council to practice social distancing in a single location or permit the public simultaneously to hear and see all the members and the proceedings of the Legislative Council in a single location under conditions of social distancing;

Whereas, the conduct of the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council through a virtual electronic meeting with members of the Council participating from separate locations would permit the Legislative Council to comply with both social distancing requirements and the requirements to permit the public to hear and see the proceedings of the Legislative Council;

Whereas, the Legislative Council does not have a standard policy to govern the conduct of virtual electronic meetings by the Legislative Council;

Whereas, IC 2-5-1.1 authorizes the Legislative Council to do all other things necessary and proper to perform the functions of the legislative department of government and to carry out the intent, purposes, and provisions of IC 2-5-1.1 that govern the Legislative Council; and

Whereas, conduct of the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council as a virtual electronic meeting and ratification of the approach by the members of the Legislative Council of that procedure in the May 13, 2020, meeting is a practical method of carrying out the intent, purposes, and provisions governing the Legislative Council;

Therefore,

Be it Resolved by the Indiana Legislative Council:

VIRTUAL ELECTRONIC MEETING PROCEDURES

SECTION 1. The Legislative Council is authorized to conduct the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council as a virtual electronic meeting.

SECTION 2. The May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council shall be conducted according to the following procedures:

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate will be physically present in the State House where the meeting is being conducted.

A quorum will consist of a majority of the members appointed to the Legislative Council, including members serving as ex officio members. To be counted in the quorum, a member must participate in the meeting by electronic means. If a quorum is present, official action of the Council may be taken by a majority of the members participating in the meeting.

All votes will be conducted in the form of a roll call. No votes by consent or by voice vote will be taken.

As is the traditional practice for the annual organizational meeting of the Legislative Council, no testimony from the public will be taken other than an explanation of the resolutions by the Executive Director of the Legislative Services Agency.

The State House will be closed to members of the public but:

(A) members of the public will be able to hear and see members of the Legislative Council participating in the meeting through the Watch Live feature accessible both from the front web page and the Legislative Council committee web page on the legislative website;

(B) resolutions and other documents offered at the meeting will be available on the legislative web page for the Legislative Council; and

(C) video of the meeting will be archived;

to the same extent as if the Legislative Council had conducted a meeting with all members physically present.

SECTION 3. The staff of the Legislative Council is directed to webcast on the legislative website and archive the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council as if the meeting had been conducted with all members physically present at the meeting.

SECTION 4. A member of the Legislative Council attending the May 13, 2020, meeting of the Legislative Council by electronic means shall be treated for all purposes as if the member had been physically present at the meeting.