The following has special meaning:
green underline denotes added text
~~red-struck-out text denotes deleted text~~

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House Resolution 1507

By: Representative Burns of the 159th

A RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives so as to allow for virtual meetings of the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the Rules of the House of Representatives are amended by revising House Rule 1.11 as follows:

"**1.11** ~~There~~ Except for emergency situations in which meetings of the House of Representatives are conducted through electronic means, there shall be no speaking into any telephonic device or any audible sounds emitting from any such device in the House of Representatives Chamber. However, Members may use messaging capabilities of such devices. "

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rules of the House of Representatives are amended further by revising Rule 16 as follows:

"**Rule 16.**

16.1 No standing or interim committee or subcommittee of the House of Representatives shall officially meet at any place within the state where any citizen of the state is denied admittance on the basis of religion, race, creed, nationality, or gender or on property belonging to any private club, organization, or association in which any citizen is denied membership or discriminated against on the basis of religion, race, creed, nationality, or gender.

16.2 When, as a result of an enemy attack or natural or manmade disaster or pandemic, the Speaker authorizes such meetings, standing and interim committees and subcommittees of the House of Representatives may meet through electronic or virtual means under such conditions and procedures as the Speaker directs. When such meetings would be open to the public, such virtual or electronic meetings shall be made accessible to the public through such virtual or electronic means."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rules of the House of Representatives are amended further by adding a new Rule to read as follows:

" **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Rule 175.

175.1 Whenever, due to an emergency or disaster, resulting from manmade or natural causes or enemy attack, it becomes imprudent, inexpedient, or impossible to conduct the affairs of the General Assembly at the State Capitol in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader, may cause the House to meet through virtual or electronic means utilizing such procedures as are necessary to conduct the business of the House during such times.

175.2 When the Speaker causes the House to meet by virtual or electronic means as provided in Rule 175.1, any provision of these Rules requiring that a time period elapse from the time a document is placed on the desks of the members of the House shall mean from the time such document is provided to the members of the House electronically.

175.3 When the Speaker causes the House to meet by virtual or electronic means as provided in Rule 175.1, presence at a meeting of the House for purposes of a quorum shall include telepresence or virtual presence by electronic means.

175.4 When the Speaker causes the House to meet by virtual or electronic means as provided in Rule 175.1, the provisions of these Rules requiring a member to be in his or her designated seat in the chamber to exercise certain privileges or duties shall be satisfied by the member's telepresence or virtual presence in the meeting by electronic means."

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