A Senate resolution

amending the Temporary Rules of the Senate.

Temporary Senate Rule No. 12.1 is amended to read:

12.1 (a) All meetings of the Senate, its committees, and subcommittees are open to the public. A meeting of a caucus of the members of any of those bodies from the same political party need not be open to the public. A caucus of the Hennepin county, Ramsey county, or St. Louis county delegation is open to the public. For purposes of this rule, a meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the body.

(b) During the peacetime emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020, in Executive Order 20-01, or during any subsequent peacetime emergency declared by the Governor that is related to the infectious disease known as COVID-19, Senate committee and subcommittee meetings may be held using alternative means that permit remote participation and voting, subject to this rule. Compliance with this rule meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 3.055. The alternative means used to conduct a hearing under this rule must ensure that all members of the committee participating in the hearing can see and hear one another, and that all witnesses are also visible and audible to the members participating during the witness's testimony, with the ability for witnesses to see and hear the members participating during the witness's testimony. Any meeting using alternative means must be contemporaneously available electronically to the public. The notice provided for the hearing must specify how members of the public may access and monitor the meeting. All of the requirements of Senate Rule 12 apply to hearings held under this paragraph unless otherwise excepted.