

1 A RESOLUTION

2 ENACTING AND SUSPENDING CERTAIN SENATE RULES FOR THE
3 REMAINDER OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE TO ALLOW REMOTE
4 PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS AND PROVIDE PROCEDURES TO CONDUCT
5 PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

6
7 WHEREAS, Senate Rule 24-1 provides that the rules of the
8 senate may be amended by a two-thirds' majority vote of the
9 members of the senate or by a majority vote of the members of
10 the senate upon the recommendation of the rules committee;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the following new senate rules,
13 effective for the remainder of the fifty-fourth legislature,
14 be adopted to read:

15 "4-1-1 The president shall ensure that all members, staff
16 and employees who are physically present in the
17 senate, galleries, lobby, senate committee rooms
18 and rooms connected therewith follow proper social
19 distancing, including by limiting the number of
20 persons physically present, and are provided with
21 appropriate personal protection equipment during a
22 declared public health emergency. The presiding
23 officer shall ensure that each member wear a mask
24 that covers the mouth and nose while on the floor
25 or in committee."; and

1 "7-1-1 A senator shall be considered to be present and in
2 attendance for the purposes of establishing a
3 quorum for either floor sessions or standing
4 committee meetings or a call of the senate if the
5 member is physically present or in the senator's
6 capitol office as confirmed by the presiding
7 officer of the senate, or chair in the case of a
8 standing committee. For purposes of a call,
9 members who are present must vote on the
10 legislation that is the subject of the call.
11 Senators are strongly encouraged to remain in their
12 respective offices when not on the floor, in
13 committee or in caucus and to remain in the capitol
14 or advise their respective whip if they must leave
15 for any reason."; and

16 "7-1-2 A senator who has tested positive for coronavirus
17 disease 2019 or has been in personal contact with a
18 person who has tested positive for coronavirus
19 disease 2019 shall inform the senator's respective
20 floor leader or whip. The senator may be excused
21 or shall self-isolate in the senator's capitol
22 office. A senator participating from the senator's
23 capitol office pursuant to this rule shall be
24 provided with the opportunity to debate and vote by
25 electronic means from that senator's office and

1 shall be considered present for the purposes of a
2 quorum or a call of the senate."; and

3 "7-5-1 A senator who is present from the senator's capitol
4 office may vote by entering the senate chamber and
5 casting the senator's vote from the well of the
6 senate in front of the chief clerk."; and

7 "7-8-1 A senator who is present from the senator's capitol
8 office during a session and wishes to be recognized
9 shall contact the senator's respective floor leader
10 or whip, who shall then request the president to
11 add that member's name to the list of senators
12 desiring to be recognized. A senator who is
13 present on the senate floor from the senator's
14 capitol office may debate by entering the senate
15 chamber and debating from the well of the senate."; and
16

17 "11-9-2 Electronic signatures may be used by sponsors to
18 sign bills, resolutions or memorials or amendments
19 thereto."; and

20 "11-21-1 Committee reports on a bill, resolution or memorial
21 may be digitally signed and electronically
22 transmitted from the committee to the chief
23 clerk."; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Senate Rules 23-3 and 23-4-1
25 be suspended, effective for the remainder of the fifty-fourth

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

legislature. _____