

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 543

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to permit Members to vote by proxy and remotely attend committee proceedings in certain cases, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2023

Ms. ROSS (for herself, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. JACOBS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to permit Members to vote by proxy and remotely attend committee proceedings in certain cases, and for other purposes.

1 *Resolved,*

2 SECTION 1. PERMITTING PROXY VOTING AND REMOTE AT-
3 TENDANCE AT COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS
4 FOR MEMBERS IN CERTAIN CASES

5 (a) PROXY VOTING.—Clause 2 of rule III of the
6 Rules of the House of Representatives is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (a), by striking “A Member
2 may not” and inserting “Except as provided in para-
3 graph (c), a Member may not”;

4 (2) in paragraph (b), by striking “No other per-
5 son may” and inserting “Except as provided in
6 paragraph (c), no other person may”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following new
8 paragraph:

9 “(c) In the case of a Member with a serious medical
10 condition, including any pregnancy-related condition, or a
11 Member who is the primary caretaker of a spouse or de-
12 pendent with a serious medical condition (including any
13 pregnancy-related condition), such Member may designate
14 another Member as a proxy who may cast the vote of such
15 Member or record the presence of such Member in the
16 House if such Member submits to the Clerk a signed let-
17 ter, which the Clerk shall preserve the confidentiality of
18 and which may be in electronic form—

19 “(1) certifying that such Member has received
20 a recommendation from a doctor that the Member or
21 the spouse or dependent of the Member, as the case
22 may be, should not travel or attend House pro-
23 ceedings in person as a result of a serious medical
24 condition; and

1 “(2) specifying by name the other Member who
2 is designated as a proxy for such Member.”.

3 (b) REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE PRO-
4 CEEDINGS.—Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives is amended by adding at the end the following
6 new clause:

7 **“Remote attendance at committee proceedings in
8 certain cases”**

9 “7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule,
10 in the case of a Member with a serious medical condition,
11 including any pregnancy-related condition, or a Member
12 who is the primary caretaker of a spouse or dependent
13 with a serious medical condition (including any pregnancy-
14 related condition) who has submitted to the Clerk a signed
15 letter, which the Clerk shall preserve the confidentiality
16 of and which may be in electronic form, certifying that
17 such Member has received a recommendation from a doc-
18 tor that the Member or the spouse or dependent of the
19 Member, as the case may be, should not travel or attend
20 House or committee proceedings in person as a result of
21 a serious medical condition, such Member may participate
22 remotely during in-person committee proceedings, includ-
23 ing by casting a vote or recording their presence remotely,
24 and—

1 “(a) such remote participation shall not be con-
2 sidered an absence for purposes of clause 5(c) of
3 rule X or clause 2(d) of rule XI; and

4 “(b) such Member participating remotely pursu-
5 ant to this clause shall be counted for the purpose
6 of establishing a quorum under the rules of the
7 House and the committee.”.

○