



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 6/14/2017

### Bill Number

House Bill 17-1113

### Sponsors

*Representatives Willett & Arndt  
Senator Scott*

### Short Title

*Allow Electronic Committee  
Participation During Interim*

### Research Analyst

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### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which became effective May 20, 2017.

### Background

The Colorado General Assembly allows members of the public to testify before committees from five remote testimony sites, if certain procedures are followed. Prior to the passage of House Bill 17-1113, members of the legislature were prohibited from participating in committee hearings from remote locations or through electronic means.

### House Action

***House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee (February 16, 2017).*** The committee adopted amendment L.001, and referred the bill, as amended, to the House Appropriations Committee. Amendment L.001 changed the bill's safety clause to a petition clause.

***House Appropriations Committee (March 31, 2017).*** The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

***House second reading (March 31, 2017).*** The House adopted the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee report and passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

***House third reading (April 3, 2017).*** The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

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## Senate Action

**Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee (April 17, 2017).** The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Legislative Council Committee.

**Legislative Council Committee (April 28, 2017).** The committee adopted amendment L.004, and referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole. Amendment L.004 changed the bill's petition clause to a safety clause.

**Senate second reading (May 2, 2017).** The Senate adopted the Legislative Council Committee report and Amendment No. 2. Amendment No. 2:

- removed statutory language specifying that a member participating electronically must be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, but could not vote on matters before the committee; and
- added language to the legislative declaration about the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council occasionally revisiting electronic participation policies to determine the feasibility and desirability of allowing members to vote when participating in meetings electronically.

The Senate passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

**Senate third reading (May 4, 2017).** The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## Relevant Research

Legislative Council Staff, *Public Participation in the Legislative Process*, Interested Persons Memorandum, January 17, 2017: <https://tinyurl.com/y75vmrw3>.