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 DIGEST

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SB 71 Reengrossed

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Peacock

Present law authorizes a public body to hold a public meeting via electronic means if the jurisdiction of the public body is within an area where the governor has declared an emergency and holding a public meeting as otherwise provided by law would be detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.

Present law requires the presiding officer of the public body to give notice of such a meeting at least 24 hours in advance and to certify on the notice that the meeting is limited to one or more of the following:

- (1) Matters that are directly related to the public body's response to the emergency and are critical to the public health, safety, or welfare.
- (2) Matters that, if delayed, will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
- (3) Matters that are critical to continuation of the business of the public body and that cannot be postponed due to legal requirements or deadlines.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that such a meeting may also include other critical or time-sensitive matters that the presiding officer has determined should not be delayed if the members of the body present approve consideration of the matters by a two-thirds vote.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 42:17.1(A))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Restore present law language and add other critical or time-sensitive matters that are placed on the agenda at least 24 hours before the meeting provided that the matters are certified at the meeting by a unanimous vote of the body that the matters are critical and time-sensitive and there is no reason for delay.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the reengrossed bill:

1. Change the vote requirement for consideration of matters provided for by proposed law from unanimous to two-thirds.