

---

The original instrument was prepared by Matt Deville. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Ann S. Brown.

---

SB 225 Reengrossed

DIGEST  
2022 Regular Session

Hewitt

Present constitution provides that the legislature shall provide for orderly and temporary continuity of state government, in periods of emergency, until normal processes of government can be reestablished in accordance with the constitution and laws of the state; and, except as otherwise provided by present constitution, for the prompt and temporary succession to the powers and duties of public offices when incumbents become unavailable to perform their functions.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes from mandatory to permissive the legislature responsibility to provide for the orderly and temporary continuity of state government and operation of the legislature. Such actions may be accomplished by law and the adoption of rules of procedures.

Proposed constitutional amendment adds that to preserve continuity of state government and operation of the legislature, remote participation and voting in open, public meetings may be authorized for members of the legislature to transact business during a public emergency. Further provides that no measure shall be enacted or adopted by remote action unless at least a majority of the elected members of either house are unable to meet in person at the state capitol solely due to circumstances directly related to the emergency.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 8, 2022.

(Amends Const. Art. XII, Sec. 11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Makes technical corrections.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Changes from mandatory to permissive the legislature responsibility to provide for the orderly and temporary continuity of state government and operation of the legislature.

2. Requires that such actions may be accomplished by law and the adoption of rules of procedures.
3. Provides that continuity of state government includes "the operation of the legislature".
4. Provides that remote governing action by the legislature must be dependent solely upon the circumstances being directly related to the emergency.