

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 224

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREGORY MILLER

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 24:202(F)(1) and (G), relative to meetings of the Louisiana State
3 Law Institute; to provide for the location of meetings; to provide for meetings via
4 electronic means; to provide for the authority of the Louisiana State Law Institute;
5 to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 24:202(F)(1) and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
8 follows:

9 §202. Council; membership; terms; vacancies; meetings

10 * * *

11 F.(1) All meetings of the ~~Louisiana State Law Institute, including but not~~
12 ~~limited to council, committee, and subcommittee meetings;~~ Council shall be held at
13 a meeting space located in a public building and open to the public for the purposes
14 of the meeting. The institute shall select meeting space that is available without
15 charge or at a reduced cost. At least a ~~majority~~ half of the ~~council~~ Council meetings;
16 ~~and at least a majority of the meetings of each committee, subcommittee or other~~
17 ~~body of the institute;~~ held each year shall be in Baton Rouge.

18 * * *

19 G.(1) Meetings of the institute shall be subject to the Open Meetings Law
20 and the Public Records Law.

21 (2)(a) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection or provisions of the
22 Open Meetings Law to the contrary, committees and subcommittees of the institute

1 may conduct periodic meetings via electronic means provided that all of the
2 following requirements are met:

3 (i) No later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting, the institute shall
4 provide the notice and agenda for the meeting, which shall include information
5 regarding how members of the public may participate in the meeting and submit
6 comments regarding matters on the agenda. The notice and agenda shall be posted
7 on the website of the institute and emailed to any member of the public or the news
8 media who requests notice of the committee or subcommittee's meetings.

9 (ii) The institute shall provide a mechanism to receive public comment
10 electronically both prior to and during the meeting. The institute shall properly
11 identify and acknowledge all public comments during the meeting and shall maintain
12 those comments in its record of the meeting.

13 (iii) The institute shall ensure that each person participating in the meeting
14 is properly identified and that all parts of the meeting, excluding any matter
15 discussed in executive session, are clear and audible to all participants in the
16 meeting, including the public.

17 (iv) A committee or subcommittee shall not conduct successive meetings via
18 electronic means.

19 (b) The provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph shall not limit the
20 conduct of meetings via electronic means during a gubernatorially proclaimed or
21 declared disaster or emergency in the manner provided by R.S. 42:17.1.

22 (c) The institute may adopt rules, regulations, and procedures to allow the
23 public to participate in a meeting via electronic means.

24 (d) For purposes of this Paragraph, the following words and phrases shall
25 have the following meanings:

26 (i) "Meeting via electronic means" shall mean a meeting occurring via
27 teleconference or video conference.

28 (ii) "Teleconference" shall mean a method of communication that enables
29 persons in different locations to participate in a meeting and to hear and otherwise
30 communicate with each other.

1 (iii) "Video conference" shall mean a method of communication that enables
 2 persons in different locations to participate in a meeting and to see, hear, and
 3 otherwise communicate with each other.

4 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 8 effective on the day following such approval.

 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____