

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 969 (Substitute for House Bill No. 663 by Representative Green)

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Article 195.1, relative to judicial
3 proceedings conducted by remote technology; to provide for hearings; to provide for
4 judge trials; to require the court to give written reasons declining the remote
5 appearance for good cause; to provide for the consent of the parties; and to provide
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Article 195.1 is hereby amended and reenacted
9 to read as follows:

10 Art. 195.1. Judicial proceedings by ~~audio-visual means~~ remote technology

11 A. ~~A hearing on any motion or exception may be conducted by any audio-~~
12 ~~visual means at the discretion of the court. If witness testimony is necessary, a party~~
13 ~~may request that the hearing be conducted in person. In any civil proceeding that~~
14 ~~does not require witness testimony or the introduction of evidence, a party may~~
15 ~~provide written notice to the court at least ten days prior to the scheduled hearing~~
16 ~~date that he will appear remotely. Provided the court has the requisite technology,~~
17 ~~the court shall allow the party to appear by any audio-visual means, unless the court~~
18 ~~provides written reasons declining the remote appearance for good cause.~~

19 B.(1) When allowing a remote appearance pursuant to this Article, the court
20 shall ensure the technology enables all parties, whether appearing remotely or in
21 person, to fully participate.

1 (2) The court shall require that a remote appearance by a party abide by any
2 necessary privacy and security requirements appropriate for the conference, hearing,
3 proceeding, or trial as established by the court.

4 C. The court shall have a process for a party, court reporter, or other court
5 personnel to alert of any technology or audibility issues arising during a remote
6 proceeding.

7 B: D. A judge trial may be conducted by any audio-visual means with the
8 consent of all parties and permission of the court.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____