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H.B. 791
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cutrona and Ginter

Alyssa Bethel, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Extends the temporary authority for public bodies to meet via electronic technology.
- Declares an emergency.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Open meetings during COVID-19 emergency

The bill extends, until the end of the declared state of emergency, the temporary authorization for a public body to hold and attend meetings and hearings by means of teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology. The authority originally was not to extend beyond December 1, 2020;¹ after this bill was introduced, the temporary authorization was extended until July 1, 2021.² Continuing law generally requires public bodies to hold in-person meetings and hearings.³

The bill declares an emergency and therefore would take effect immediately.

¹ Section 12 of H.B. 197 of the 133rd General Assembly, amended by Section 1 of the bill.

² Section 1 of H.B. 404 of the 133rd General Assembly, amending Section 12 of H.B. 197 of the 133rd General Assembly.

³ R.C. 121.22 and Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, not in the bill.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-18-20
