

From: **Mindy Mitchell** <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 8:11 AM
Subject: Comments re: Electronic Participation
To: <foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov>

FOIA Council,

I am a member of the public and I benefit from a government, including advisory bodies, that reflects my community and includes a diversity of voices and experiences, including those who rely on public transportation, have children, and/or jobs that require travel. Especially now when there are so many survival issues that arise without warning, inclusivity and responsiveness are needed.

I urge you to vote this year:

- 1) To remove the state-level cap on individual electronic participation by members of a public body when a quorum is present;
- 2) To codify language that would allow public bodies to address any subject during emergency electronic meetings;
and
- 3) To study in 2021 the possibility of electronic meetings outside of an emergency, especially for Executive Committees and Subcommittees of advisory and regional boards

The law is outdated and needs to change.

Thank you for your consideration.

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