

From: **Stephanie Oppenheimer** <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Nov 17, 2020 at 1:43 PM
Subject: Modernize the Electronic Participation Law
To: <foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov>

FOIA Council,

Thank you for your service on the FOIA Council. As the chair of our community's Library Board of Trustees, accessibility and ease of service has never felt more critical during a time when we can't meet in person, yet the business of living and running communities must continue.

I urge you to vote this year to remove any state-level limit for how often a member may participate electronically. It is also imperative that you codify the authority of public bodies to address any subject during emergency electronic meetings. I need my government to be able to work for me during an emergency, and I need a better way to ensure that the members of our Board of Trustees can continue to meet safely and efficiently.

Please also study in 2021 how there can be further increased flexibility for meeting electronically even when there is not an emergency. This can make participation in such meetings more accessible for members of the public like me, as well.

Thank you.

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