

From: **Cathy Hosek** <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 28, 2020 at 7:21 PM  
Subject: Support of Electronic Meeting Changes  
To: <[foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov](mailto:foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov)>

FOIA Council,

Hello, I currently serve on the FPAC (Facilities Planning Advisory Council) for the Fairfax County Public School System. I

Thank you for your service on the FOIA Council. I hope you agree that it is important to make public service (whether elected or appointed) more accessible for all Virginians, so that we may achieve more representative, effective public policy. As a member of the public, I benefit from a government that reflects my community and includes a diversity of voices and experiences.

I support removing the Commonwealth-imposed limit on individual electronic participation by members of a public body. If you choose to recommend a more modest change this year, such as the Subcommittee's recommendation, I urge you to remove the word "serious" in reference to a family member's medical condition that qualifies for an allowable reason for electronic participation. The definition of "serious" is unclear. I believe that members of public bodies should be able to care for family members when needed.

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.

Our FPAC group has met virtually since April of last year. I was also able to serve on the CCFP (Consolidated Community Funding Pool) Committee last year which awards 12 M to non-profits working in Fairfax County. See this link for more information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/sponsoredprograms/fundingpool>

This work is critical to keeping our community functioning. We could use all the help we can get to do our advocacy work and these restrictions are not helping.

These restrictions also limit who may serve on these advisory boards and commissions. Please update these regulations to reflect the current times and the fact that people are much more accessible via electronic means now.

Thank you,

Cathy Hosek  
GrandInvolve Mount Vernon Lead  
MVCCA Education Committee  
SCTF Steering Committee  
FCPS FPAC MV Appointee  
CCFP member FY 2021-2022  
Former PTA President SLES 2 yr term

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