

On Mon, Oct 30, 2023 at 9:56 AM Calfee, Jared <[jcalfee@arp.org](mailto:jcalfee@arp.org)> wrote:

To the FOIA Council Electronic Meetings Subcommittee,

We write today in support of increasing access to participation in public meetings via electronic means. The ability to engage electronically has forever and fundamentally altered the way that people work, meet, communicate and live their lives. Hard-working professionals across the Commonwealth go to work each day without ever leaving their homes thanks to advances in virtual meeting technology and capabilities. That same opportunity should be available for civic-minded Virginians who wish to serve their communities but may have an ailment or disability that makes in-person participation at meetings difficult or impossible.

Allowing public boards and committees to permit more virtual participation in meetings will make opportunities available to more Virginians, encourage civic participation and ensure inclusion for all Virginians who wish to serve.

Sincerely,  
AARP Virginia

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**Jared Calfee**

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