

HB 1470 – AS INTRODUCED

2014 SESSION

14-2264  
01/05

HOUSE BILL            **1470**

AN ACT                relative to quorums for meetings under the right-to-know law.

SPONSORS:            Rep. R. Brown, Graf 2; Rep. Bartlett, Merr 19; Rep. Rideout, Coos 7; Rep. Theberge, Coos 3

COMMITTEE:          Judiciary

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ANALYSIS

Under this bill, a quorum shall be physically present at meetings under the right-to-know law; provided, however, that if a member or members necessary to meet such a quorum must travel in excess of 60 miles to the meeting, such member or members may participate electronically or otherwise.

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Explanation:          Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
                                Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~].  
                                Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen*

AN ACT                   relative to quorums for meetings under the right-to-know law.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1           1 Right-to-Know; Quorum. Amend RSA 91-A:2, III(b) to read as follows:

2                   (b)(1) Except in an emergency ***or as provided in subparagraph (2)***, a quorum of the  
3 public body shall be physically present at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location  
4 of the meeting. For purposes of this subparagraph, an “emergency” means that immediate action is  
5 imperative and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of  
6 time requiring action. The determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman  
7 or presiding officer of the public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be  
8 included in the minutes of the meeting.

9                   ***(2) The physical presence of a quorum of the public body as required under***  
10 ***subparagraph (1) shall not apply to any meeting of a board or commission if a member or***  
11 ***members required for a quorum must travel in excess of 60 miles to attend the meeting.***  
12 ***The facts justifying application of this subparagraph shall be included in the minutes of***  
13 ***the meeting.***

14           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2015.