



DELAWARE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF DELAWARE  
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

TO: The Members of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly

FROM: David Sokola, President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
Peter C. Schwartzkopf, Speaker of the House of Representatives

SUBJECT: Notice of Virtual Meeting Authorization Under Rule 2 of House Concurrent Resolution No. 1

DATE: January 12, 2021

On March 12, 2020, Governor John C. Carney issued a state of emergency due to the public health threat posed by COVID-19. The Governor extended that state of emergency for the tenth time on December 24, 2020. On March 12, 2020, in response to growing concerns about the spread of COVID-19, the leadership of the 150<sup>th</sup> General Assembly closed Legislative Hall to the public and postponed legislative session. Due to the public health threat posed by COVID-19, the 150<sup>th</sup> General Assembly concluded the regular session by meeting virtually and Legislative Hall remains closed to the public.

As the date for the convening of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly approached and COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations surged, the leadership of the General Assembly determined that, with the public health threat continuing, the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly must be convened and operate, at least initially, in a virtual format.

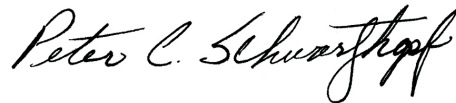
On January 8, 2021, the President of the Senate and Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives issued a memorandum setting the time and place for the convening of the General Assembly and its legislative committees. Because the place selected was virtual, the President of the Senate and Speaker Pro Tempore provided procedural mechanisms to govern the first virtual meeting.

Today the General Assembly adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 (“HCR 1”), accepting and approving the January 8, 2021, actions of the President of the Senate and the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives, declaring an emergency under § 5 of Article II and § 1 of Article XVII of the Delaware Constitution, and adopting rules of procedure for conducting virtual meetings of the General Assembly and its legislative committees during an emergency.

Under the authority granted to us by HCR 1, we declare that due to an emergency, the public health emergency caused by COVID-19, the Senate and House of Representatives and all legislative committees are permitted to convene and conduct virtual meetings under HCR 1.



David Sokola  
President Pro Tempore  
Delaware State Senate



Peter C. Schwartzkopf  
Speaker  
Delaware House of Representatives